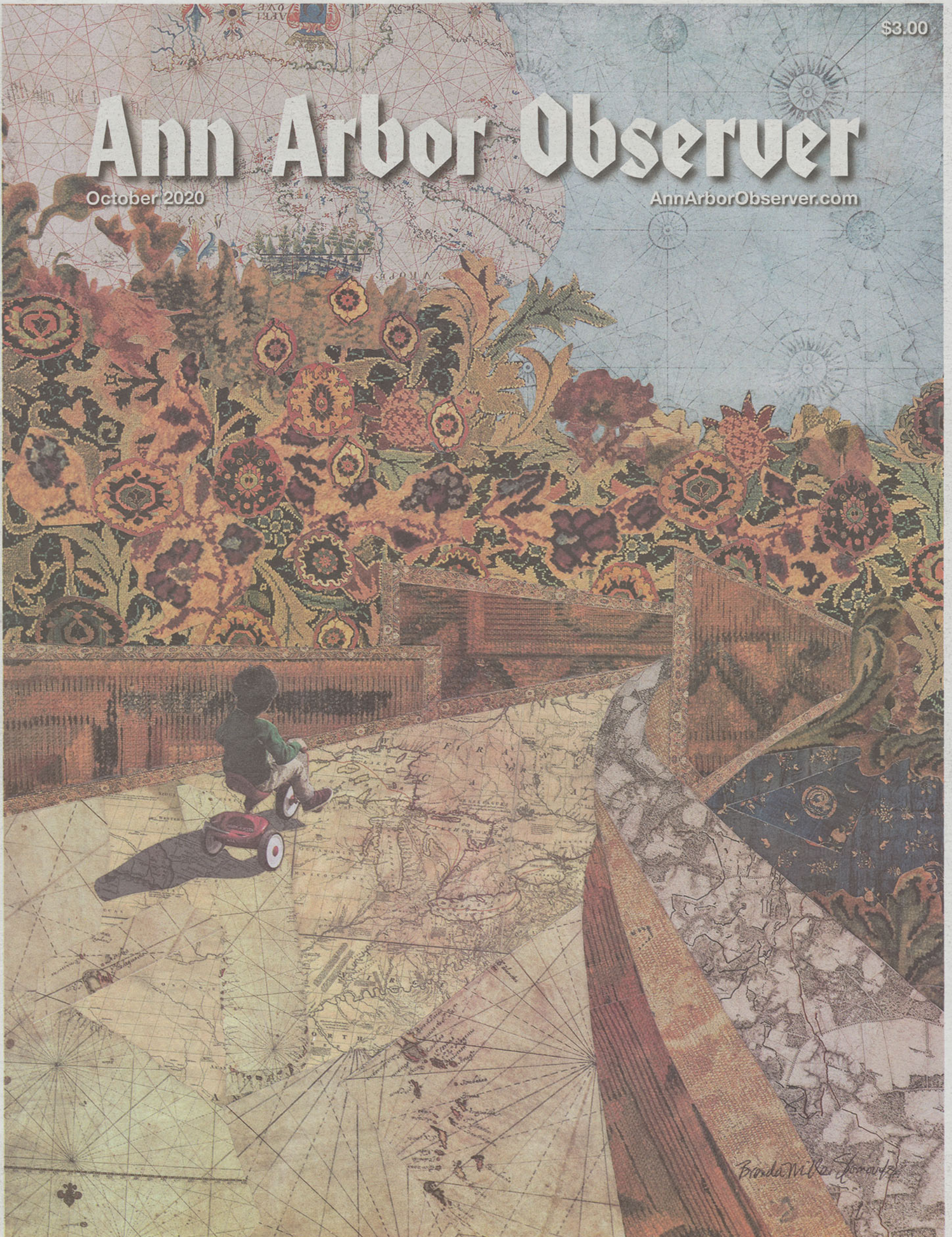


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October 2020

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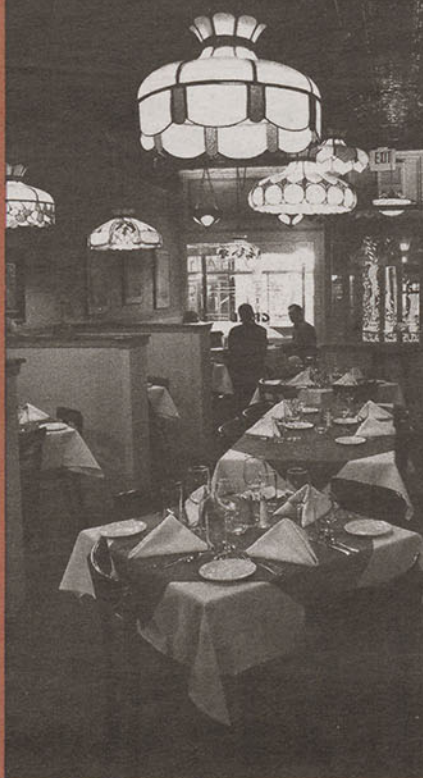




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## Photographers

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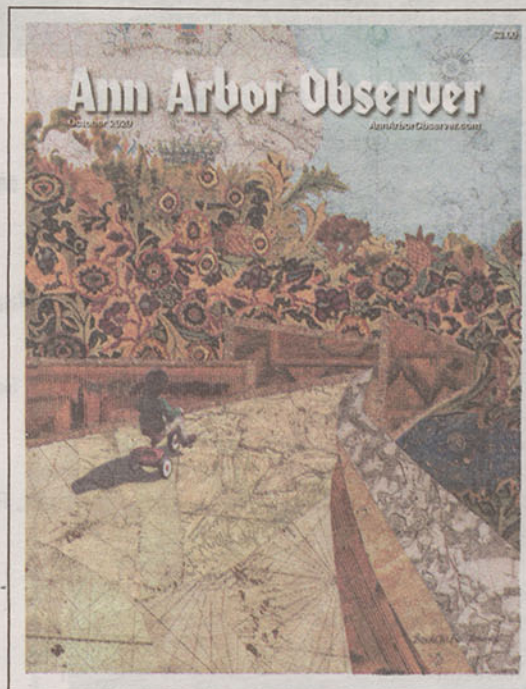
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These listings include virtual events scheduled as of September 19, as well as a few events for in-person audiences; for later postings, see [AnnArborObserver.com](http://AnnArborObserver.com). Virtual and real-world exhibits at local Galleries are listed on p. 43; our Kid's Calendar is on p. 44. Plus a review of the Takács Quartet online.

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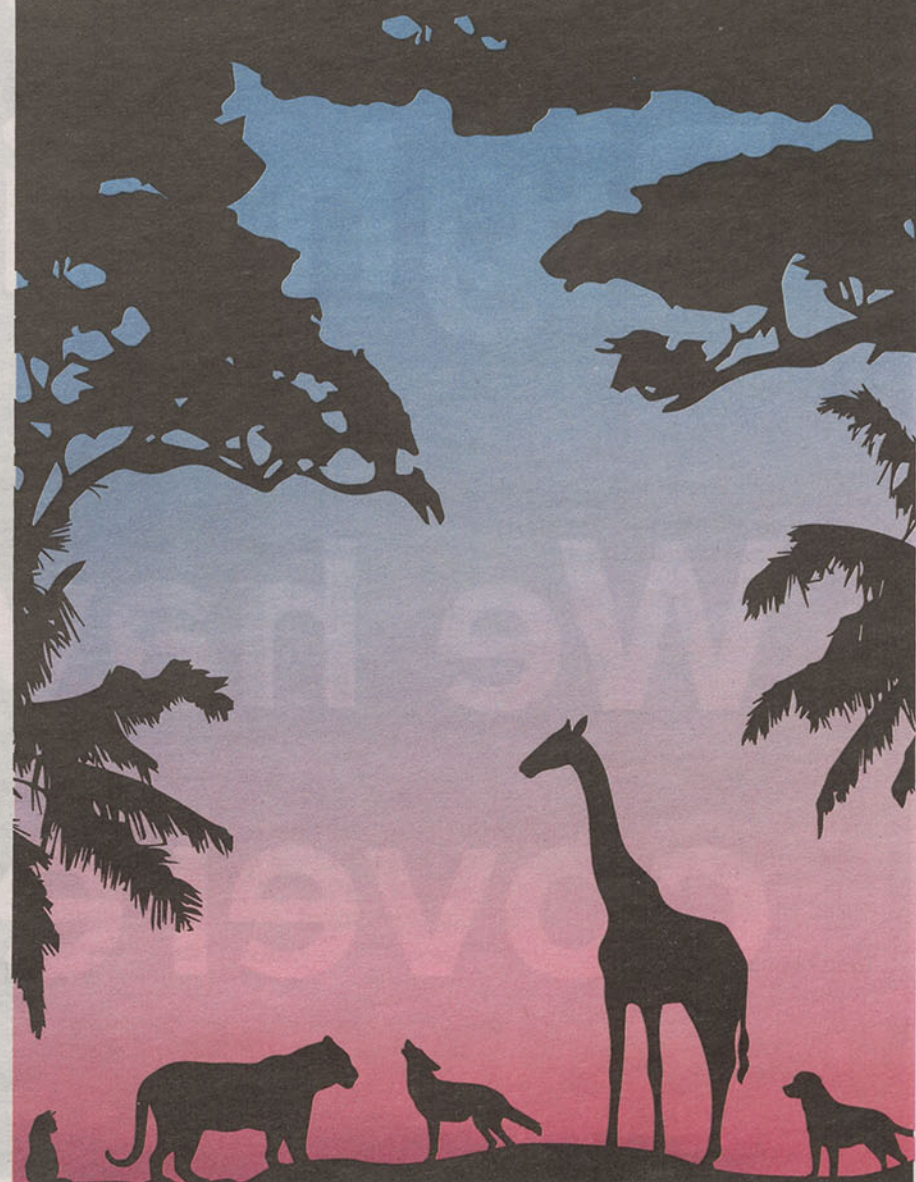
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**Who's driving?** Maybe you've seen Hyundai Sonatas with no one behind the wheel on Ann Arbor streets lately, and wondered where they came from. Well—the Russians are coming.

The cars are a test project by the Russian Internet giant Yandex, which operates a search engine and some seventy other services. Yandex has been developing autonomous vehicles in partnership with Uber since 2016, and in September announced plans to spin the program off as a separate company.

The Sonatas reflect another partnership, with Hyundai. A photo on Facebook showed one intruding a bit on a crosswalk at a red light, but so far no incidents have made news.

Why Ann Arbor? A company spokesperson told *Forbes* that we're one of the few cities that allows autonomous vehicles to operate with no one in the driver's seat—its only similarly tolerant testing site is Innopolis, a newly created "high tech city" on the Volga River. Yandex also has vehicles on the road in Moscow and Tel Aviv, but those cities require a safety driver.

The company had announced plans to have totally autonomous vehicles, without steering wheels or pedals, on the road by 2024, though the coronavirus pandemic may delay that. Meanwhile, if you'd like a passenger's-eye view of one of the Sonatas in action on Ann Arbor streets for an hour, dodging campus-area cyclists and drivers who change their minds, there's one on YouTube at [tinyurl.com/yxb4qne2](https://tinyurl.com/yxb4qne2).

**Street art:** In September, pedestrians stopped in their tracks at the corner of Catherine and Detroit streets to ponder a giant map of Washtenaw County painted on the sidewalk—one that, in true Treetown spirit, also offers pointed social commentary.

"I'm very much making a political statement," says artist Yen Azzaro. The temporary installation, one of two funded by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and chosen by the Arts Alliance, highlights each of the county's zip codes in luscious colors, with sketches of landmarks like the Burton Memorial Tower and Dexter's Mill Creek Park. Statistics stenciled alongside highlight inequality. "There is a 17 year difference between white residents' average age of death in Ypsilanti Township versus Chelsea Village," says one.



And "During Covid times, 65% of white respondents report being able to work from home versus 38% of black respondents in Ypsilanti."

Not every message is grim. "The rate of uninsured (health) dropped from 9% in 2010 to 4% in 2015," reads one tag. But Azzaro, a Huron High and U-M grad who lives in Ypsilanti, hopes the map reminds people that "My neighborhood is not the same as my neighbor's."

The DDA was inspired in part to offer employment to local artists during the pandemic, explains spokesperson

Maura Thomson. The second project, by four U-M architecture grads, involves giant dots painted on State St. near North University, and a cluster of what look like giant, multicolored popsicle sticks sprouting from flower pots.

Arts Alliance CEO Deb Polich says the pop-up projects reflect a trend called "tactical urbanism." According to [tacticalurbanism.com](https://tacticalurbanism.com), cities around the world are using "flexible and short-term projects to advance long-term goals related to street safety, public space, and more." Other local examples include temporary bike lanes and partial street closings.

The Alliance has two more \$6,525 grants to give out. Polich says proposals can be as playful as the architects' or as provocative as Azzaro's: "Washtenaw County, for everything it offers—and it offers a lot—has things to work on."

**Buffaloed?** The Mediterranean-blue, lime-green trimmed house on Yost St. is eye-catching, but what brings drivers and pedestrians alike to a halt is the life-sized metal oxidized bison with a ribbon-like mane, curved short horns, and braided tail in the front yard.

Most erroneously identify the sculpture as a male buffalo. Homeowners Itibere (Itchie) Silveira and Leila Barbosa inform them that it actually represents a female Great Plains bison—specifically, "Ralphie," the mascot of the University of Colorado Boulder's football team.

Passersby aren't the only ones confused about the creature's species—the Colorado football team calls itself the

Buffaloes, and alternately refers to Ralphie as a buffalo and a bison on its website. Accompanied by five handlers, a live Ralphie—always a female—has been sprinting around the football field since 1966 to bolster team spirit.

The metal Ralphie arrived in Wolverine territory on a cold, snowy January day in 2018. Silveira, a multimedia artist enamored with metal work, got a call from Steve Sinelli, a longtime friend and fellow estate sale aficionado. "Itchie, you gotta come see this bison!" Sinelli declared breathlessly. "You're gonna love this bison!"

Silveira saw the sculpture as he drove in to the sale site in Pinckney. "I knew it was a beauty," he says. "I'm a welder, so I know how difficult it is to make something like that."

Lots of people were bidding on the bison, so Silveira found John Rokke, who owns Family Treasures Estate Sales with his wife Denise, and told him, "Whatever it is, I'll bid higher."

That clinched the deal. "I paid an \$850 bid," he says. "I love it. I just love it!"

The Rokkes were able to tell him that the homeowner, a University of Colorado Boulder alum, had brought the sculpture from Colorado. But they didn't know the name of the artist who created it, and Silveira is still trying to solve that mystery.

He's since learned his sculpture would fetch \$20,000 online, but to him, it's priceless. No matter her value, Silveira and Barbosa continue to keep their Ralphie in their front yard—with a security system monitoring her.

They have another mascot sculpture in the backyard, Silveira volunteers—adding, "Leila hates it."

"I don't know what you're talking about. You mean the terrible, ugly, stupid thing?" she deadpans.

"It's beautiful!" exclaims Silveira. "To you, maybe," Barbosa huffs. She put her foot down when her husband suggested moving the piece to the front yard.

Silveira bought the baby-plump, gnome-sized, naked seated creature, with a Mohawk, wide grin, and Mr. Spock ears and eyebrows, at an estate sale in Bloomfield Hills. "People thought it was a Buddha at first," says Barbosa, but a friend identified it as "the Billiken," a good-luck charm created by a Missouri woman more than a century ago. Said to bring luck to those who rub its belly, it was later adopted as a mascot by Saint Louis University.

The couple's connection to their mascot collection is purely artistic. Natives of Brazil, they both went to college in Rio de Janeiro.



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Debussy	Quartet (Mvts. iii, iv)



### Sheku Kanneh-Mason & Isata Kanneh-Mason

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### Digital Artistic Residency Virtual Kick-Off Events

Part 1: **Tue 9/29** from  
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Featuring **Wendell Pierce, Tunde Olaniran, and Cleo Parker Robinson**

Part 2: **Wed 9/30** from  
12-1 pm at [ums.org](https://ums.org)

Featuring **Joyce DiDonato, Brian Lobel & Gweneth-Ann Rand, and Tarek Yamani & Spektral Quartet**

To kick off UMS's Digital Artist Residencies, we'll hear from the artists who will be working with us this season to create art that can live in both the digital and live performances spaces.

### A Virtual Grand Night for Singing

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These virtual performances, recorded specifically for UMS audiences, are free and available for all at [ums.org](https://ums.org).



# Inside Ann Arbor

## Reviving the MRF

*Steve Pratt says he's warned his wife and kids not to expect to see him for a year.*

Pratt is the new manager of Ann Arbor's Materials Recovery Facility (MRF, usually pronounced "murf"). Built to sort and sell the city's recyclable materials, it's been largely idle since being shut over safety concerns four years ago. Recycle Ann Arbor (RAA), which collects the city's recyclables, has used it only to hold them temporarily before trucking them to a recycling facility in Southfield.

Pratt is so busy because under a contract signed in June, RAA is spending \$7.3 million to rebuild the MRF. On its side, the city has committed to paying the nonprofit \$147 a ton to process its recyclables, which works out to about \$2 million a year.

Recycle Ann Arbor began as a volunteer project in 1978, and the city has funded its collections since 1982. It got the hauling contract when the MRF closed—but only after its parent, the Ecology Center, persuaded council to reverse a staff decision to use a private company.

It was the first of three council votes favoring the respected local nonprofit. First, council killed discussion of privatizing the city's three curbside pickups—trash, recycling, and compost—by requiring that any new system not cut city jobs. When staff came back with a proposal to hire additional employees to take over recycling collection, council nixed that too—staff estimated the plan would save the city three-quarters of a million dollars a year.

Instead, council directed staff to negotiate with RAA to reopen the MRF. The ten-year contract, concluded after months of at times delicate negotiations, requires RAA to process the city's 14,200 annual tons of glass, paper, and plastics. To do that, it will have to replace most of the equipment, expand the "tipping floor" where materials enter the facility, and install a new control system. It's financing the work with a \$6.5 million loan from Level One Bank and an \$800,000 federal grant.

With RAA's annual operating costs already at \$7.5 million, CEO Bryan Ukena acknowledges that taking on the MRF is a "big risk." But he also points out that it's such a "good investment we had four companies that said 'we want to loan money' on this project."

*RAA CEO Bryan Ukena acknowledges that taking on the MRF is a "big risk." But he also points out that it's such a "good investment we had four companies that said 'we want to loan money' on this project."*



MARK BIALEK

Pratt used to run Recycle Ann Arbor's drop-off station. Now he's overseeing a \$7.3 million project to bring the Materials Recovery Facility back online.

That's still bold talk in an industry suffering since commodity prices dropped and China stopped taking America's recyclables. Vietnam soon followed, and now we sell our stuff to countries like Bangladesh that can't afford to be fussy. Facing greatly increased costs, many towns have considered limiting or ended their recycling programs.

Not here: Ann Arbor has a dedicated solid waste millage. "Collection is considered an essential service," Ukena says. "We don't see that changing."

The MRF opened in 1995, and in the five years before it closed, its private operator, ReCommunity, paid the city almost \$3 million—its share of the MRF's earnings from selling the materials it processed. But to do that, ReCommunity had force-fed 75,000 tons annually to machines designed for 30,000 tons. The company did it, Ukena believes, because "they were positioning themselves to sell to Republic" Services, the country's second-largest trash and recycling provider—which they did in 2017.

Because the city owned the MRF, staff was concerned that it might be liable for worker injuries. Ukena says the new contract "protects the city in a very real way—the risks are equally shared."

Molly Maciejewski, the city's public works manager, agrees in nearly the same words. "We have arrived at a ten-year MRF service agreement and land and building lease that equitably shares risk and optimizes measurable economic and environmental community benefits,"

Maciejewski writes in an email. "RAA bears risk and liability for accidents, injuries, and legal claims related to the MRF operations unless the City is found to be negligent or fails to comply with material obligations in the Agreement."

"The key differences with the new arrangement with RAA compared to ReCommunity is that RAA is leasing the MRF building and site from the City," she explains. "Maintenance, upkeep and any needed modification of the MRF will be RAA's responsibility."

Until the MRF is functional again next August, RAA will continue to ship our recyclables to Southfield. After operations resume, revenue from the sale of its recyclables will be deducted from the city's processing fee. If the revenue becomes greater than the fee, the city will keep 55 percent of the surplus, and RAA the rest.

"If the markets go up even mildly," Ukena says, "the city stands to make a great deal of money." While he "can't predict markets," Ukena guesses it could be up to "\$1.5 million a year" for the city.

If it happens. Industry experts think it's unlikely recycling will ever pay for itself again, meaning that the folks using the service will pay for it. Maciejewski writes that the city "will not speculate on the future of recycling markets [but] we hope the commodity markets rebound because it would ultimately lead to increased diversion rates across Michigan and the country ... The City and RAA have negotiated a contract in good faith, and we feel comfortable with the terms and requirements of that agreement."

Despite the obstacles, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner Evan Pratt says, "I think they can do it." One of the founders of the current effort to coordinate recycling in the county's eastern half through a central authority, Pratt has "seen some of the documenta-

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## Inside Ann Arbor

tion of how they plan to do it, and I asked a lot of questions. I didn't see anything in there [that had me asking] 'Well, how in the hell are you going to do that?!' "

Reopening the MRF will add 30,000 tons of annual recycling capacity to the county. Currently the Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority processes about 6,600 tons annually for the cities of Chelsea and Dexter plus Lyndon, Manchester, and Lima townships. The rest of the county's recyclables wind up in the Southfield MRF, which is near capacity.

Since Ann Arbor produces about 14,200 tons of recyclables annually, RAA hopes to use most of the remaining capacity for other communities. "Our processing rate is competitive," says Bryan Weinert, RAA's director of strategy. "We are very confident that there're a lot of players in the region that are hungry to do business with us."

RAA's goal is to process 20,000 to 25,000 tons annually, so while they're rebuilding the MRF internally, they're talking informally with communities plus local colleges and universities. More importantly, says Weinert, "there's a potential for [the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management] Authority to ultimately buy into this."

Most members of the regional authority are from the county's east: Ann Arbor, Pittsfield, Scio and Ypsilanti townships, plus the cities of Ypsilanti, Saline, and Dexter. They're currently considering a weighted voting system based on tons delivered rather than one vote per town—which would make participation much more attractive to populous Ann Arbor.

So far, however, council seems uninterested in joining the authority. It tabled a motion to join twice in 2019 and hasn't looked at it since. County public works director Theo Eggermont emails that the authority hasn't gotten "a clear path to understanding if the City wants to be in or out, or any clear conditions for joining."

But he adds that "adopting a contract that large is highly unlikely at this point."

It would certainly be advantageous to the city if they did. As Maciejewski explains, "The City gets a host fee of \$13.50 per ton for whatever they process that doesn't come from the city which will be deducted from what the City owes RAA for processing the City's materials."

Ukena admits that post-China recyclables markets are "some of the worst markets I've seen [in] thirty years." But his faith in the future is unshaken and probably unshakable. "If markets do return—and they will, they always do—it's a commodity, it's a resource, and there's less and less of it. So recycling will become very profitable."

In a follow-up email, he adds that "[t]he true value of recycling is not generally accounted. What gets lost in this equation is how much it costs not to recycle. Not just the cost of transportation to a landfill or incinerator, or the tip fees once you get there but the environmental and health impacts of the emissions of that transportation and disposal. ... In an authentic calculation of us living on this planet with limited resources and a suffering climate—recycling is always going to be cheaper, smarter and better."

*"Will recycling cost money if we do not include these other real and life impacting costs in comparison?—yes it does cost money and it will. But landfilling and incineration are not free."*

## Digital Performances

*"This is not the year to hibernate," says UMS president Matthew VanBesien.*

Even after the U-M shut down last spring, the University Musical Society held out hopes for an in-person fall season. Those hopes faded over the summer, as artists canceled tours and the prospects for holding live events dimmed.



"I am not a big believer in substituting a live performance with a digital performance," says VanBesien (at Hill Auditorium, pre-pandemic). He says the University Musical Society plans to offer audiences "a more personal, bespoke performance moment with our artists."



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As late as August, it still looked like the Paul Taylor Dance Company would be able to appear in September. But “in the end, they didn’t feel they could adequately rehearse,” VanBesien says. And “we have yet to have real access to U-M venues like the Power Center.”

The organization’s committed donor base, as well as university support and infrastructure, gave UMS the luxury of reimagining the season off-stage. But “I am not a huge believer in substituting a live performance with a digital performance,” VanBesien says.

And since the Taylor company canceled its New York season as well, even that wasn’t an option.

Fortunately, the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance had the Taylor company’s official historian on its faculty. UMS

*When the Paul Taylor Dance Company canceled, UMS recruited dance prof Angela Kane and Taylor artistic director Michael Novak to jointly curate a viewing of footage from several iconic Taylor works.*

recruited dance prof Angela Kane and Taylor artistic director Michael Novak to jointly curate a viewing of footage from several iconic Taylor works, culminating in what is widely regarded as his seminal piece, *Promethean Fire*.

Choreographed after 9/11, the dance declares the resilience of the human spirit in the wake of catastrophe, a theme whose poignance is particularly resonant today. The live performance was originally scheduled for Sept. 10 and 11. The digital format allowed UMS to extend the run until Sept. 21, including a live Q & A with Kane and Novak on closing night. This month, instead of performing live at Rackham, the Takács Quartet will record a recital while sheltering in place at the University of Colorado Boulder (see Events, p. 37).

By making its digital performances about process as well as product, VanBesien hopes to engage audiences by “offering a more personal, bespoke performance moment from our artists.” And by making them available free this season, they’re expanding the audience to anyone with an Internet connection, with the potential to permanently grow the organization’s presence from the local to the international stage.

“Arts organizations talk a lot about access,” he says. “The digital piece does democratize access in a way that is hard to achieve in normal times.”

UMS is creating individualized marketing and distribution strategies for each performance, enlisting the help of artists and partnering organizations to promote content to wider audiences.

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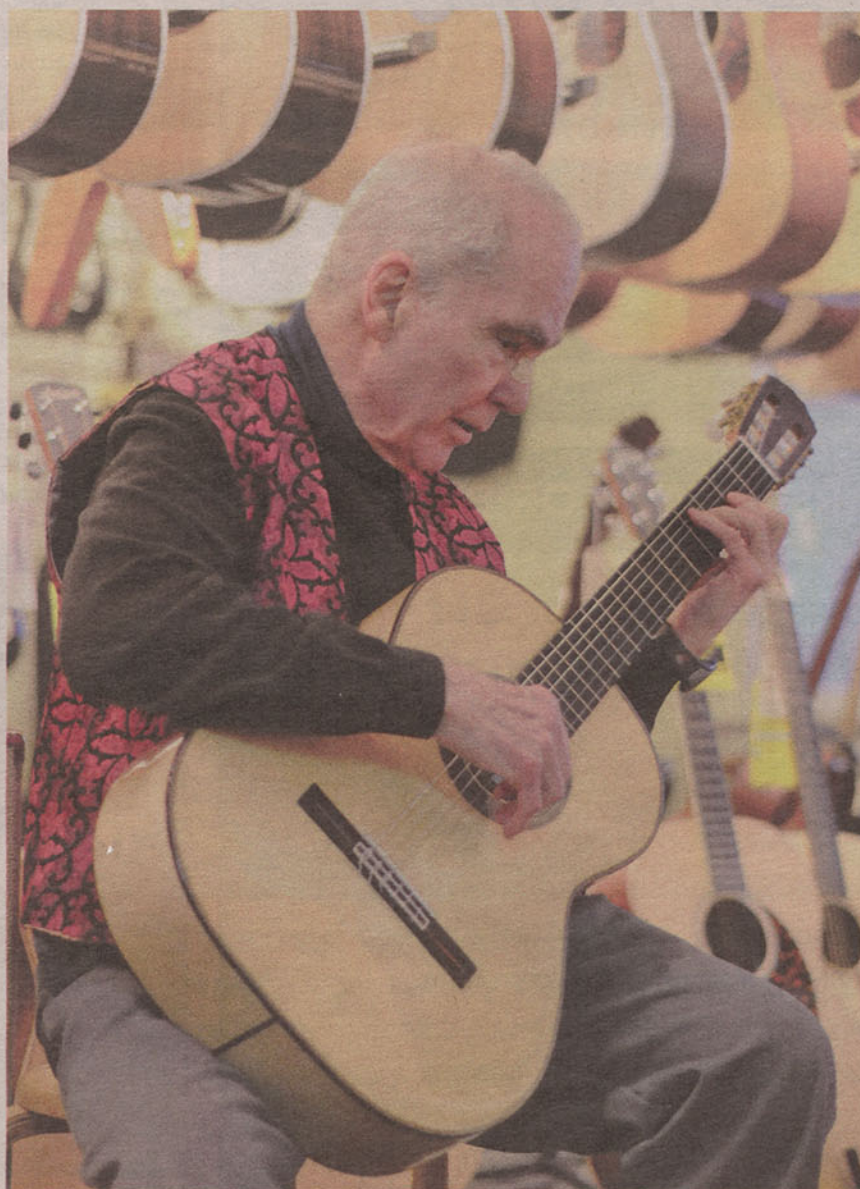
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## Inside Ann Arbor

Artists with large followings can more easily navigate the challenges of a season without live performances by devising creative ways to generate revenue online. "If you are well positioned to be able to do those things that's great, but there are a lot of artists that may fall through the cracks," says VanBesien. He saw an opportunity to invest in artists by offering digital residencies, paying them to create performances specifically designed for the digital frame.

The digital residencies, which roll out at the end of September, include actor Wendell Pierce, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, artist Brian Lobel, dancer/choreographer Cleo Parker Robinson, Flint-based musician and artist Tunde Olaniran, and jazz artist Tarek Yamani in a collaborative project with the Spektral Quartet.

Some residencies, like DiDonato's, focus more on the artist's creative process than the final product. Other artists, like Pierce and Olaniran, will be creating content for this year and next.

"What we like about this more open, fluid model," VanBesien says, "is that it gets us way beyond the transactional space of 'we pay you as an artist, and you create a video we can then push out or sell to our audiences.'"

"Sometimes an artist will just provide some fun, whimsical content, or even collaborate with another artist within the UMS cohort on one of their projects."

## Affordable Care

Last February the doctors at Packard Health began seeing some strange illnesses.

The coughs, troubled breathing, sweats, and fevers didn't test as any kind of influenza that they knew.

Nevertheless, they were in a "state of shock and awe," says executive director Ray Rion, when in March the first confirmed Covid-19 cases were reported in Michigan.

Packard immediately began offering appointments online, and 80 percent of their patients switched. They continued seeing patients who needed to be examined in person at 3174 Packard, the original location, but closed the Ypsilanti office at 200 Arnet St. and the satellite Ann Arbor clinic at 1915 Pauline.

In the early days of the pandemic as many staff members as possible, mainly support personnel, began working from home. But three got Covid-19, and medi-

*In the early days of the pandemic as many staff members as possible, mainly support personnel, began working from home. But three got Covid-19, and medical assistant Jamice Sturdivant died.*

cal assistant Jamice Sturdivant died.

"We are not able to determine where she contracted the virus," Rion emails. "She was with Packard for four years, and patients loved her."

Since then, everyone has stayed healthy. When the emergency ended, they began seeing more patients in person, reopening in Ypsilanti in June and on Pauline in July.

Packard Health also opened a Covid-19 test site in Ypsilanti, which has the county's largest concentration of Covid-19 cases. Originally located in the Perry Early Learning Center, it relocated this fall to Ypsilanti's Second Baptist Church at 301 S. Hamilton.

A state grant is helping pay for the testing site, which like all Packard ser-



Ray Rion at Packard Health's new headquarters on Venture Dr. The building and ten adjacent acres were donated by longtime supporters Norma and Dick Sarns. It will eventually house a new clinic as well—one that will reflect the Sarnses' interest in community wellness and prevention.



vices is open to anyone regardless of ability to pay. (They are now requesting, if possible, that people make appointments to alleviate the long lines.)

As the number of cases spiked over the summer, the wait to get the results back from the testing lab stretched to about two weeks, but it's now down to two to four days. Sometime this fall the wait time will get even shorter: a grant that they received from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan will allow them to add on-site rapid testing capability.

Packard Health was founded by physician Jerry Walden in 1973. Rion has been there since 2003 and has served as director since 2012. Though most of his work now is administrative, he still spends 30 percent of his time on direct patient care. "Packard Health is why I went into medicine," he says. "It's what I enjoy doing."

The Packard building is in poor shape, and before the virus hit there were plans to move to a newer building about a mile away at 2650 Carpenter. That has been delayed, and the Packard building is still being used as clinic.

But the office, which was upstairs, has moved to more spacious quarters in a building at 5200 Venture Dr., off State near the airport. The building—and ten adjacent acres—were donated by longtime supporters Norma and Dick Sarns.

Dick, an engineer by training, developed a heart-lung machine in the 1960s for open-heart surgery—a need he learned about from doctors who he met because his wife Norma, taught children who were patients in University Hospital. Terumo still makes Sarns heart lung machines on Jackson Rd. Dick and their son Steve then developed the NuStep line of recumbent cross-trainers at a campus on Venture Dr.

Packard's administration is enjoying the new building, where "we all fit comfortably," says Rion. It will eventually be home to a new clinic as well. The Sarnses are particularly interested in community wellness and prevention, and other ideas for the space include chronic disease support, classes on health issues, therapies, fitness classes, a walking trail, and a community meeting space.

Implementing those ideas, though, will have to wait until there's a respite from treating patients. And Rion doesn't see Covid-19 going away anytime soon.

"The virus is predictable," he says, "but what isn't predictable is the human response" to advice on limiting its spread.

Packard Health has a fundraising page for Jamice Sturdivant's daughter at [gofundme.com/f/we-love-jamice](https://gofundme.com/f/we-love-jamice).

## Virtual Sessions

*Is online therapy just another pandemic hardship, or a blessing in disguise?*

**P**re-pandemic, a counseling session at the Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan gave many clients a break—from "their kids, a messy house,

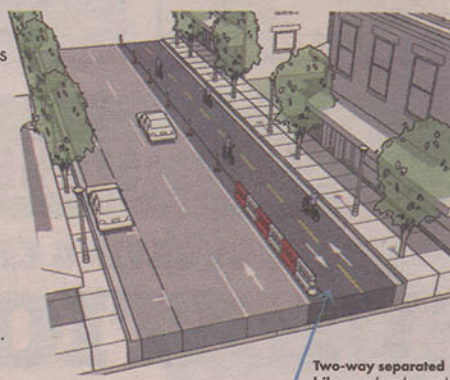


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## Inside Ann Arbor

a messy relationship," says therapist and executive director Marnie Leavitt. It was a "peaceful and calm space."

These days, clients connect from home via screen or telephone, and interruptions are common. Maybe the computer battery dies, Leavitt says, or the client is distracted by a family member or pet. "For me, personally, I don't like it," she says—she'd still rather see people in her office.

But virtual sessions quickly became the norm during the pandemic. "While all

*The virus exacerbates basic themes of loss and security," says psychologist Julie Nagel. "You can hear these themes—normalcy, loneliness, wanting to go out and do something. It's always there, like a background noise."*

parties look forward to having the opportunity to meet in person again, everyone is satisfied with the telehealth service in place," emails Sarah Hong, who supervises Thrive Counseling at Jewish Family Services.

In-person therapy ended with stunning abruptness when the state shut down last spring. "Friday, March 13—the last day I reported for some time—100 percent was done in person," recalls Hong. "Starting the following week, we were 100 percent virtual."

Making the switch required some frantic training and technical support. Fortunately, a recent grant allowed Thrive to pay for things like second phone lines for therapists working from home and even to help struggling clients pay Internet bills. But that didn't make it easy.

"The first week, the fatigue was overwhelming," recalls psychologist Julie Nagel, whose private practice focuses on stage fright and other issues. "I'm just not used to staring at the screen, and everyone was scrambling to learn to get on."

Half a year later, Nagel is more relaxed and also more computer savvy but is still struck by the peculiar intensity of teletherapy. In real life, "you're never this close—face to face—with anybody for a long period of time."

The switch to virtual "went much more smoothly and rapidly than I might have predicted," says psychiatrist Greg Dalack of the U-M Depression Center. It helped that the psychiatry department (the center's administrative home) "had been slowly moving toward digital visits." More important, insurers came around quickly to covering virtual therapy—though Dalack regrets that they declined to cover some of the Depression Center's forty group therapy sessions, ending them.

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Growing demand for therapy during the pandemic has made it even harder for people without insurance. The Women's Center will see them, but it has a waiting list. Exacerbating the situation is a shortage of psychiatrists, the physicians who prescribe medications to relieve depression and anxiety. "We have a two-month waiting list," says Dalack.

Inevitably, Covid-19 is now a presence in many sessions. "The virus exacerbates basic themes of loss and security," says Nagel. "You can hear these themes—normalcy, loneliness, wanting to go out and do something. It's always there, like a background noise."

Other problems have emerged when, for example, people who lost their jobs move in with family members and relationships grow tense. "You have young people living at home who never thought they'd be living at home again," says Hong.

Leavitt notes that the changeover was easier for middle-class patients, who have good computer systems and plenty of private space, than for people on borderline incomes. But even some of her clients are relieved to be meeting virtually, because they'd found transportation a hassle.

"It's possible the advent of [virtual] visits will be a silver lining to an otherwise horrible situation," says psychologist Adrienne Lapidos. In an article for the-conversation.com, Lapidos described her ambivalence when a patient "apologizes for the messy room visible behind her." Lapidos—who keeps her own camera focused on her profile, against a blank wall—wonders, "Would a glimpse at my messy room decrease her feelings of shame? Or would it just increase mine?" She chose not to find out.

Much as she misses the in-person visits, Nagel says, she and her colleagues "are in no hurry to rush back and take a chance [of infection]. Friends of mine have been talking about the logistics of going back and about how weird it would feel to sit in a mask and a patient had a mask on, and what is the ventilation? What is the safety factor for everyone involved?"

Thrive has added a new therapist to deal with the rising need. "We are accepting new clients!" Hong emails. While both clients and therapists look forward to in-person meetings, she believes, both "have adjusted very well."

Everyone interviewed believes that while teletherapy will never replace in-person meetings, it will remain a significant tool post-pandemic. Dalack emails, "We need to refine the use, determine how we will use it in the post-Covid future, but I trust it is here to stay."

Nagel agrees. "The horse is out of the barn," she says. "I think therapy has changed forever."

## Life in Ann Arbor

Tim Athan

*I'm going to a party, but I'm sure these people have tons of herd immunity!*



## calls & letters

### Phillis Engelbert, solus.

Our September Marketplace Changes article on Eat replacing the Lunch Room in Kerrytown mistakenly described Phillis Englebert and Joel Panozzo as co-owners of the Lunch Room and the nearby Detroit St. Filling Station. "Joel left the business at the end of 2019," Engelbert emailed. "I have been sole owner of the company since then."

## question corner

**Q.** In Mary Beth Doyle Park there is a rain barrel that is not hooked up to anything—there is no way for water to go into it. And it is attached to a fence. Any idea what it does?

**A.** A memorial tree was planted in this park in June, explains Melissa Schacht, who coordinates the city's memorial tree donations. The watering of a newly planted tree is very important during its first growing season to ensure it gets established well.

Mary Beth Doyle Park does not have a water spigot, or even a roof to harvest rainwater from, so some creativity was required. Staffers fill this barrel every two or three weeks from a truck-mounted 100-gallon tank, and a volunteer draws from it to water the tree (Schacht also runs the city's Adopt-a-Park volunteer program).

"Of course there is the stream and pond in Mary Beth Doyle, but the water level can vary significantly and accessing it to fill a bucket would be challenging," Schacht emails. "The barrel will be removed after this fall and might reappear for a short period in 2021."

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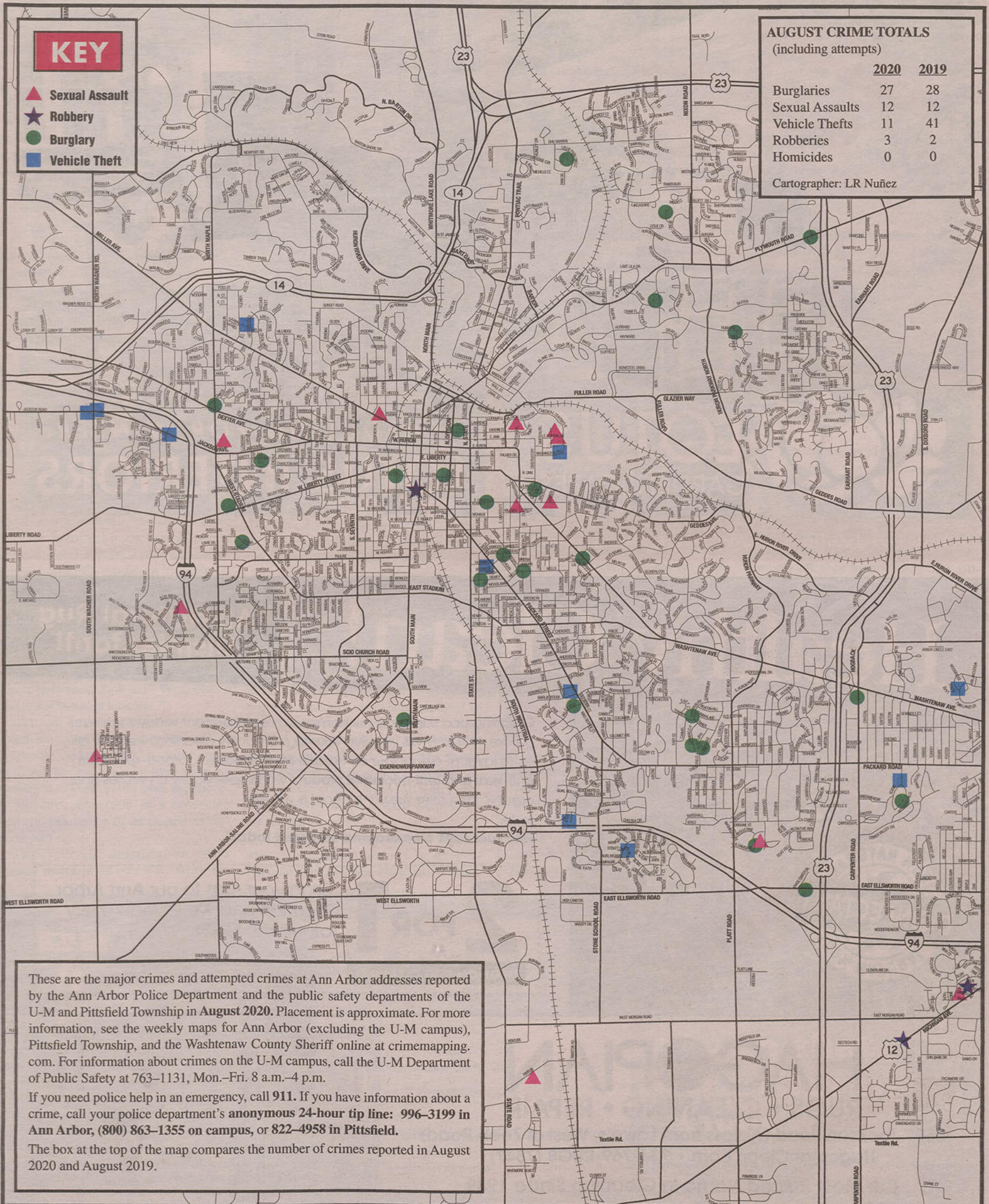
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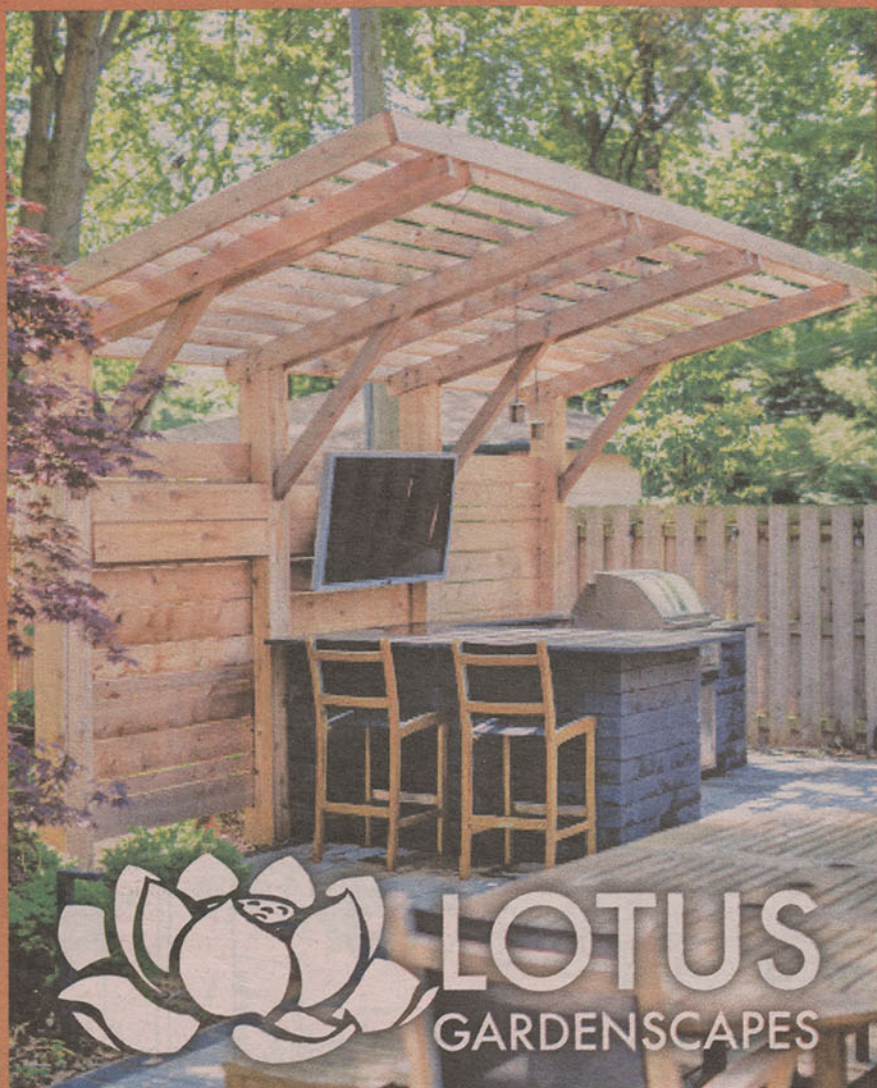
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# Ann Arborites

## Marie Klopf

### From tech to art

What would motivate a successful, techy sort of businesswoman to throw over money, power, and glamour to take up a modestly paid job in the nonprofit art world with which she was totally unfamiliar? Just a phone call, apparently.

"It was the strangest phone call I ever got," says Marie Klopf.

And what would prompt JPaul Dixon, board chair of the Ann Arbor Art Center, to make that call with what might seem an unlikely offer?

It's a story of seduced motivation.

Raised in Howell, Klopf earned a bachelor's degree in engineering with a minor in finance from Michigan State. Her motivation then, she says, was "to be the world's bridge between business and engineering." In the 1980s this would have seemed a very difficult goal for a petite, mop-haired, bouncy, impish woman. She didn't quite become the whole world's bridge, but her aim was good.

"I got to do that at GM. I was a supply chain manager for twenty-nine years," says Klopf, now fifty-seven. During that time, she "got interested in the start-up world and I became an investor with a small angel fund, BELLE—Michigan 'Bold Enterprises Leveraging, Leadership, and Experience.' We were all women investors, and we invested in women's start-ups."

She did more bridging there. "You have to teach," she says with considerable passion. "What does valuation mean? What does a term sheet look like? What does a successful business look like?"

She had a home connection to those questions—John Dickey, her husband, is a software engineer with his own company. (Each has two children from previous marriages.) Other professional experiences included partnership in a consulting firm and presidency of an electric motorcycle start-up.

The career was ascending, but events skewed things in an odd way. When her



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

partner in the consulting firm died, it was devastating. "I didn't know what to do," she remembers.

Another complication was an insurance claim against the motorcycle company. That seemed bad. But, in a twist at a vulnerable moment, the claim introduced her to JPaul Dixon at Hylant Insurance.

Dixon and the A2AC board also had a problem. After an impressive thirty-three years of running the art center and assuring its place as one of Ann Arbor's premier arts institutions, Marsha Chamberlin announced her retirement in 2012. The board immediately began a nationwide search of candidates qualified to run a nonprofit arts organization.

They selected and hired a person who at the last minute backed out. The search was renewed, but now they needed an interim person. Then, Dixon had a very sensitive insight—why not Marie Klopf to fill the temporary post?

Klopf had a strong business and financial background and she is, on even minimal acquaintance, obviously a "peo-

ple person." But she had no demonstrated interest in art. She had no experience with nonprofits. She had no local network to draw on. But it was just a six-month thing, so the board went for it.

For her part, Klopf's interest quickly expanded beyond an interim's role. "I wanted to understand the potential. I'd either shut it down or make it better." With the new search still ongoing, she applied for the permanent position.

The board, gingerly, responded with a yes vote. "There were risks," Dixon admits. "I don't know that we were all on board."

Klopf was apprehensive, too. "I had just been offered a job as a portfolio manager. But I love to try new things. How many times in life do you get a chance to change? Money is not the goal. I want it to be, but it just doesn't make me happy. So I came, and it was so refreshing ...

"I wasn't interested in art at all. I'd never been in an art museum. I ran through the Louvre once on a business trip."

Now, with familiarity, she sees it "as the most fundamental form of communication. It was the form of language in the caves. Also, I understand what the word 'community' means now."

She's willing to admit she still has a lot to learn about art, which would put her in about the same position as most everyone else.

The results of the mutual experiment are in. "It's an absolute success story," Dixon confirms. The organization has grown and flourished. The staff has blossomed. It was a great win. I'd like to take credit for it, but I have to share it."

In 2017, the A2AC board committed to buying the C.J. Walker building next door. "The art classes and outreach programs are helping to support all our work," Klopf explains, "but they had to grow to do that."

With most in-person classes on hold, the beautiful space is currently filled with a long line of tables where A2AC staff and volunteers assemble ArtBoxes full of supplies. "We bring art to you," the website says, "in your time, in your space, regardless of age and ability." The boxes are for sale individually but primarily serve as the basis for online "art camp" run by groups bringing art to underserved populations throughout Michigan.

The center promotes the art boxes on an exuberantly colorful website (annarborartcenter.org) that also announces classes, activities, exhibits, and shop news. Reflecting Klopf's background, there are computer graphics classes and gallery shows put on by artists using technology as their medium.

Most visible of all are the huge new murals being painted on the west side of downtown. Crowdfunded on Patroncity with a matching grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, they're putting the A2AC's stamp on what it's declared the city's "creative district."

At the beginning of the year, all these initiatives were booming, backed by confidence in a \$4 million fund drive. Then Covid-19 flew in. Undeterred, Klopf secured a PPE loan, a federal program to help small businesses retain employees. She moved classes online; they not only fill, they have waiting lists. Art-Camp went online. Not only is the shop going online (it is also open to visitors during hours posted on the website), but it is expanding to use an e-commerce platform to show the work of more artists. A lot of effort is going into ways to make online classes and camps work really well for participants.

The epidemic has slowed the fund drive somewhat, but a huge chunk is already in, and both Klopf and Dixon are confident the goal will be reached. It will pay off the loan for the Walker building and fund a renovation of both buildings. "We're not super strong, but we're stable!" Klopf says. "I think I was born to do this."

—Lois Kane



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# DECISION 2020




## Affordable housing, a schools challenge, and voting tips

by James Leonard

**A** pandemic changes everything—including voting patterns.

Absentee ballots made up three-quarters of the votes cast in the August primary, and of those, 40 percent were cast more than two weeks before the election, a trend local officials expect to be even more pronounced in the November 3

general election. To reach those early voters, the Observer has moved up our election coverage a month.

We won't revisit the city council race since the winners of the Democratic primaries are unopposed. And though five Republicans are running for the city's seats on the county board of commissioners, and two for the state house of representatives, none is likely to win in heavily



Elizabeth Nelson and Christopher Taylor at the "Y lot"—a potential housing site if the millage passes.

Democratic Ann Arbor—especially with the presidential election boosting turnout.

One important race could still go either way: the nonpartisan contest for circuit court judge. Amy Reiser finished third in August's primary and was eliminated, narrowing the general election to Nick Roumel and Tracy Van den Bergh (Inside Ann Arbor, August, Calls & Letters correction, September). The outcome may depend on which way Reiser's supporters turn.

### Millages

**"My jaw dropped," says Chuck Warpehoski. "Like, absolutely dropped."**

**T**hat's how the Ann Arbor Community Foundation board member reacted when he learned that in a July poll, 77 percent of the voters said they'd support an affordable housing millage in November.

The former city councilmember's jaw wasn't the only one to drop. When work on a housing millage started last fall, he remembers telling folks that "2020 might be our best shot because of progressive voter turnout" for the presidential election. But "then Covid hit. I thought we were dead."

The last effort to pass a housing millage, in 2008, ended with the Great Recession. Many thought the pandemic made it even less likely now. But then, Warpehoski

says, Amanda Carlisle and Aubrey Patiño, executive directors respectively of the Washtenaw Housing Alliance and Avalon Housing, warned that the city was "looking at a 40 percent increase in homelessness" due to Covid-19.

Carlisle and Patiño suggested the poll, got a \$14,000 Community Foundation grant to pay for it, and hired Lansing public research firm EPIC-MRA to conduct it. "We felt like it would be incredibly valuable to have a sense of public perception," says Carlisle. "We gave them the proposed ballot language. They came up with many of the questions."

With the poll to show "that this was viable at the ballot box," Warpehoski says, supporters reached out to city council about putting it before voters. Seeing housing as a "bipartisan issue," they sought out sponsors from both council factions: Elizabeth Nelson from the "Back to Basics Caucus" and Chip Smith from the "Activist Coalition." (These are the Observer's names; the factions have no formal structure.)

Warpehoski says they chose Smith because his November retirement from council made him less threatening, and Nelson was picked because WCC board member and millage supporter Dave DeVarti had a "really good relationship" with her.

Smith says that when he first ran for council, in 2013, he was told that "affordable housing is not a winning campaign issue. [But] what I saw knocking doors between 2015 and 2020 was a sea change in how people think about housing ... The problem has gotten so much worse."

Mayor Christopher Taylor puts a number on it. Washtenaw County "is the eighth most economically segregated community in the country, and we're getting worse," he says. "If we don't act now decisively, that great divide will be permanent." In July, council voted unanimously to put the millage request on the ballot.

**Ann Arbor Proposal C** calls for a twenty-year, one-mill tax that will generate about \$6.5 million annually for an approximate total of \$126 million. If passed, it would increase taxes by \$100 annually for every \$100,000 in taxable value and


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# DECISION 2020

## Seeing housing as a "bipartisan issue," backers sought out sponsors from both council factions.

support the development of about 1,500 housing units for up to 3,700 people.

It's a solid start. "We have over 5,000 folks experiencing homelessness every year," says Carlisle, "but that doesn't include the folks who are living on the edge and precariously housed."

Redeveloping city-owned properties for housing is key part of the plan. "The City has adopted multiple strategies to increase the supply of affordable housing over the last thirty years including zoning incentives, developer contributions, general fund support, property tax reductions, and partial fee waivers," emails Ann Arbor Housing Commission executive director Jennifer Hall. "These strategies have hardly made a ripple in the marketplace."

The 1,500 units "would be for folks living at up to 60 percent of area median income," Patiño says. The remaining "375 would be dedicated supportive housing targeting folks at or below 30 percent of area median income."

"The primary goal of all services provided is to prevent evictions and increase the housing stability of at-risk tenants," writes Hall. "Tenant supports are focused first on helping them maintain a stable housing situation, and then on improving their quality of life. Supportive housing services are highly individualized and flexible, free and not time limited."

And extensive: topping a partial list of more than twenty services are case management, mental health support, medical care, substance abuse recovery support, domestic violence, and conflict resolution.

Funds also are being raised privately for an endowment to pay for those services. The long-term goal, emails Lauren Wisniewski of the Sister Yvonne Gellise Fund, is to have the \$60 million endowment in place by the time the millage expires.

If the millage passes, Patiño says it will make "a serious dent" in homelessness. Carlisle believes the city can eventually eliminate it entirely. "We are very close with veterans, and if we can do it with veterans, we can do it with any population."

"There will always be people who are housing-insecure," Carlisle concludes. "But the idea is that [to] make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring, [and] with that permanent housing, I think we can do it."

Given the pandemic and an economic crisis, will the millage pass? "If Ann Arbor is the compassionate community we

say we are, this is the time we need to step up," says Warpehoski.

"I don't know that I have that sort of faith in the Ann Arbor electorate," Smith says dubiously. "I need to see it to believe it." But if they do approve it, he says, the first 130 units of affordable housing, plus 288 market-rate units, could be ready on the former YMCA lot within three years.

\*\*\*

The city also has two sidewalk taxes on the ballot, and the county is requesting renewal of its natural features millage.

The biggest tax measure on the ballot by far is **Ann Arbor Proposal A**, which would renew and restore the city's street, bridge, and sidewalk repair millage. If approved, the four-year, 2.125-mill tax would raise an estimated \$13.9 million the first year. **Ann Arbor Proposal B** would add a new 0.20-mill tax dedicated to filling sidewalks gaps; it would raise an estimated \$1.3 million the first year. If both are approved, they'll cost homeowners \$232 for every \$100,000 in taxable value.

**Washtenaw County Proposal 1** would renew and restore a 0.25-mill natural features tax for ten years. If approved, it would generate an estimated \$4.4 million the first year to purchase and preserve natural areas.

## Swift Challenge

### Seven people are running for school board. Five are critics of the superintendent.

**I**n educational administration, money can't buy you love. The Ann Arbor school board learned that the hard way in 2013, when superintendent Pat Green quit halfway into a five-year contract, despite a district-record salary.

Jeanice Swift took the job for \$45,000 less, and quickly turned the district around. With new pro-

grams like STEAM at Northside and the International Baccalaureate (IB) at Mitchell, Scarlett, and Huron, she won back district students from private and charter schools, and drew more from other districts through a "schools of choice" program. Enrollment is up 9 percent since her arrival, bringing in more state aid, and last year, voters approved a \$1 billion bond to renew the district's buildings. In June, the board extended Swift's contract for five more years.

But the superintendent has clashed with the local teacher's union over everything from state-mandated contract changes to the way the IB program was implemented. Since 2016, candidates backed by the Ann Arbor Education Association have replaced four trustees who supported Swift in those disputes. This year, three board seats are up—and five of the seven candidates criticize Swift's contract extension.

"I was not happy," says retired Ann Arbor Open teacher **Jeff Gaynor**, sixty-nine, the only current board member running and the only one to vote against the extension. "I would not structure the contract the way it was."

"I definitely don't like the way that it was done," says Ann Arbor Open parent **Ernesto Querijero**, forty-four. "I would have entertained extending her contract, but not one that is five years long." Fellow Ann Arbor Open parent **Angie Smith**, also forty-four, says she was "surprised that the public didn't know that that was going to happen ahead of time."

Swift crossed Open school parents by opposing their campaign to boycott state-mandated tests, but two candidates with ties to Pioneer High also are critics.

**John Spisak**, fifty-five, says he is "not a big fan" of Swift's. **Maggi Richards Kennel**, forty-four, writes that the board should have dismissed the superintendent because "she has been job shopping for the last couple of years." (Swift tried for the top job in Seattle in 2018 and was a finalist

## How to And how to make sure it's counted.

According to the *Washington Post*, "six in 10 registered voters nationwide say they want to cast their ballots before Election Day." Ed Golembiewski, Washtenaw County's chief deputy clerk and director of elections, reckons it'll be much higher here: "Voters are going to be encouraged by the [Secretary of State], the county, their local clerk, the media, political parties, candidates—truly everyone under the sun—to vote and return their ballot as soon as possible after they receive it," he emails.

To facilitate absentee voting, the state mailed applications to every registered voter. Voters can also request an absentee ballot online until October 30. Ballots will be mailed out beginning September 24.

Ballots can be returned by mail or other courier service, but in the final seven days before the election, the city recommends using the dedicated drop boxes in city hall's north and south vestibules, which are accessible 24/7. Additional drop boxes will be provided before election day; for information, email [cityclerk@a2gov.org](mailto:cityclerk@a2gov.org), call



(734) 794-6140, or check the clerk's webpage—go to [a2gov.org](http://a2gov.org) and search for "elections."

In addition to making it easier to vote absentee, new rules passed in 2018 allow voters to register as late as Election Day, either at the clerk's office in city hall or a temporary satellite office at the U-M Museum of Art. Registrants can request an absentee ballot and vote it immediately.

If you vote early and later change your mind before the election, you can "spoil" the first ballot by submitting a written request to the city clerk. Mailed requests must be received no later than 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election (Oct. 31); an absentee ballot may be spoiled in person at the clerk's office until 4 p.m. the day before the election (Nov. 2). There is no option on Election Day to spoil an absentee ballot that has been received by the clerk.

Want to be sure your ballot is received? Check the Michigan Secretary of State voter information page online at [mvsos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index](http://mvsos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index).

It's still possible to vote in person! If you don't know your polling place, contact the clerk's office, or search online for "Ann Arbor polling places."

—J.L.

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for Michigan superintendent of schools last year.)

Thurston parent **Krystle DuPree**, thirty-five, is one of two candidates supporting the extension. She says that as the schools struggle to adapt to the pandemic, "having consistent leadership is actually benefiting us."

"I know that a lot of people don't like Swift," says Skyline parent **Jamila James**, forty-four. "But [I think] she's done a decent job."

**Maggie Richards Kennel** writes that the board should have dismissed the superintendent because "she has been job shopping for the last couple of years."

**A**sked what they'd do differently, most of the candidates point to a single issue: growing enrollment through schools of choice.

Only James doesn't have a position on accepting students from other districts, emailing that "I have to have more information on that." The other candidates are divided mainly over whether it's a necessary evil—or just evil.

Though Gaynor is often a minority of one in school board votes, he writes that "the vote that stands out" for him was on schools of choice. "Last year AAPS enrolled nearly 2,000 students from neighboring districts; over 1,000 were from the Ypsilanti Community Schools. While these students benefit AAPS financially [it] has a much more detrimental effect on YCS."

Kennel emails that "we should not grow our district at the expense of other districts. This will only lead to increased disparities across the county, creating greater educational gaps."

"When our state leads all others in cuts to school funding, out-of-district transfers create a competition among schools that can be damaging," notes Smith.

Querijero agrees that schools of choice "pulls resources from other communities." He nevertheless supports it because "there [aren't] a whole lot of ways for us to generate more money."

"If we have open seats, we should make those available," Spisak writes. "I don't think that we should be actively marketing to take students from other school districts."

Only DuPree supports schools of choice without qualification. She writes that she's in favor of the program "because we want to make sure that we have adequate support for kiddo things."

The Ann Arbor Education Association and the Huron Valley Area Labor Federation are backing Gaynor, Smith, and Querijero. The Washtenaw County Democratic Party has endorsed Gaynor, Querijero, and DuPree, with Smith coming in fourth by a few votes. ■



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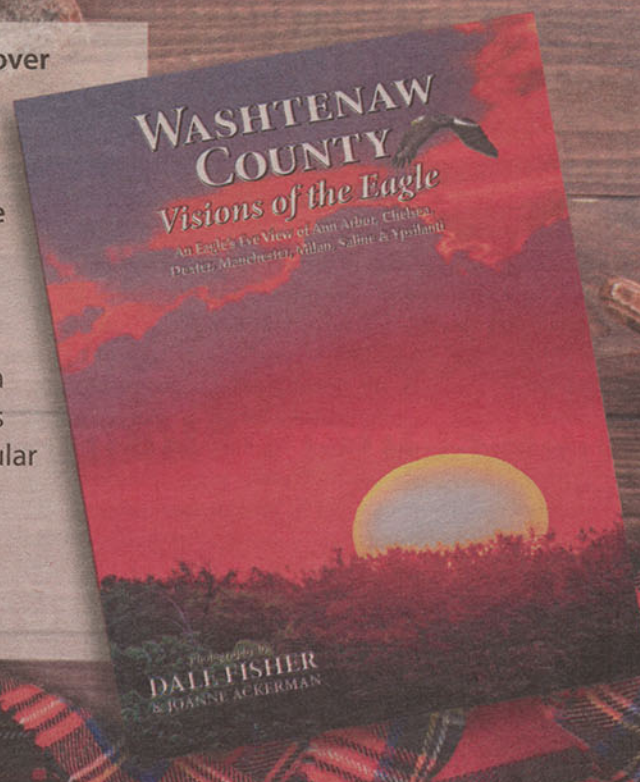
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# The

# INDIVISIBLES

by

Randy H. MILGROM

They mobilized to fight Trump's agenda—  
and to keep themselves sane.

In our binary political system, when your party is out of power, it can feel like you're wandering in the wilderness. Or worse. Since the 2016 presidential election, for some it's been much worse.

On election night, "I went to a Hillary celebration party, and it crushed my world," says retired architect Lorri Sipes.

"All of a sudden I realized that for years we've been losing our democracy," says retired U-M nurse Sue Hadden. "And democracy is not a spectator sport."

Michigan Creative account manager Hilary Robinson was "completely astonished by the results of the election" and "despondent and frustrated with the whole political system. I just felt I had to get involved in something to make a difference in the future."

Robinson and many others—most without significant political experience—found it in *Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda*. Posted online by a group of former Democratic congressional staffers after the election, it urged progressives to adopt the tactics employed by the Tea Party against the Obama administration, including phoning their members of Congress, visiting their offices, harassing them at town halls, and calling them out at public events.

"Indivisible" groups inspired by the guide soon popped up in Ann Arbor, Dexter, and Saline. And though its Washington authors wrote only about influencing Congress, many dove into state politics, too.

In 2018, the new activists helped elect three Democratic women to the state's top posts—governor Gretchen Whitmer, attorney general Dana Nessel, and secretary of state Jocelyn Benson—while shrinking the Republican majorities in the U.S. House of Representatives and in the Michigan house and senate. Sipes, among many others, signed on with Voters Not Politicians (VNP), the upstart grassroots group that led a campaign for a statewide ballot proposal that would end partisan gerrymandering of state house and senate and

U.S. house districts. It passed with a 61 percent "yes" vote in 2018. Others helped push through another ballot proposal that made it easier for Michigan residents to register and vote. Now they're fervently campaigning for local candidates, pushing for more progressive policies—and hoping to make Trump a one-term president on November 3.

## INDIVISIBLE WE RESIST ★

"I was inspired by the simple strategies laid out by Capitol Hill staffers," emails Katy Mattingly, who helped start Ann Arbor Indivisible in December 2016. In February 2017, she hosted a meeting at Sunward Cohousing in Scio Township.

Carrie Hatcher-Kay, co-chair of UUCivs—formerly UU Indivisible, based in the local First Unitarian Universalist Congregation—was at that meeting. So was Marcel Santiz, who says he showed up with "zero" prior political experience—but as one of two Saline attendees immediately became a leader of Saline Indivisible.

Even longtime activists Barry and Laura Nathan—who've protested together

since they were college students—were overwhelmed at the response. People who were there estimate the turnout at 400 or more fired-up folks.

"I heard a voice move deep within that [said], 'We can do this, we've got to do this, and people want to do this,'" remembers Hatcher-Kay. "We just needed a framework to do it together."

Hadden is on the steering committee of another group, A2D2, along with Robinson, Terri Voepel-Lewis, the Nathans, and several others. The name originally stood for Ann Arbor inDivisible for Democrats, but they soon changed it to Ann Arbor inDivisible for Democracy.

"We hadn't really been involved in the Democratic Party," Hadden explains, "and we quickly learned there were things about the party that we struggled with."

But as A2D2 began to work more closely with Ann Arbor Indivisible, Hadden says, it became clear that AAI was "more confrontational" with Democrats than her group found comfortable.

The Indivisible Guide tells readers to lobby only their own congresspeople, which for most Ann Arborians meant

Democratic representative Debbie Dingell and Michigan's two Democratic senators. Hadden thought that was counterproductive when so many Republicans like Tim Walberg (who represents areas north and west of the city) "really needed harassing."

Mattingly emails that she was "dismayed by the intense resistance to following the Indivisible Guide. There's a lot of class and race privilege in Ann Arbor. Well-off white people didn't want to pressure the Dems about anything ... They just wanted to trust their politicians to handle it."

But Hadden says her group "didn't want to be like the Tea Party. We've resisted Republicans but have focused on educating about local issues and learning about how we could make a difference. If we disagree with our legislators, we call and ask why, but we're not in their faces."

## LEARNING CURVES ★

"People were going berserk after the election," says longtime local entrepreneur Chuck Newman. Before the local Indivisible groups coalesced, he recalls thinking, "I've got to do something about this." He "called around" briefly to find out what other people were doing before he realized: "I'm an entrepreneur. I should be one in this, too."

Newman formed Protectors of Equality in Government (PEG). With its robust website filled with news and event information—along with a weekly e-newsletter that has distributed more than 180 issues to more than 7,000 recipients—PEG has served as a hub for taking action on everything from registering new voters to lobbying for legislation that would permit county clerks to count absentee ballots before the polls close.

"When you do something like this, there's a huge learning curve," Hadden says—especially with so many newcomers to activism. PEG has helped enormously, as has SWIM (Statewide Indivisible Michigan), WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition), and the Washtenaw



Ann Arbor Indivisible for Democracy—formerly Ann Arbor Indivisible for Democrats—meets at the home of Teri Voepel Lewis (in white).



Dems, among other local and statewide organizations.

Much of the real work of activism is far from glamorous. Canvassing, door-knocking, literature dropping, tag hanging, and just showing up—at marches and rallies and fairs and festivals and sporting events and hearings and meetings and town halls.

When the pandemic pushed Michigan residents into isolation, much of the action morphed into emailing, phone and text banking, and letter writing—though as the marathon officially became a sprint after Labor Day, activists are again coming in closer contact with those they hope to sway as they drop off literature and hang tags on doorknobs. Some drops are neutral get-out-the-vote efforts, while others feature progressive candidates' literature and the Michigan Democratic Party's voter guide.

None of this is easy. And it comes naturally to almost no one—which is why

House" effort to elect the four additional state reps needed for Democrats to take control in the state house.

"There's a 'trickle down' effect on the ballot but also a 'bubble up,'" says Laura Nathan. "That's why it's so important to get involved in hyper-local stuff."

Ann Arbor Township clerk Rena Basch does not engage in partisan campaigns. But she says that even before 2016, she'd been searching for nonpartisan methods to address long-term systemic issues such as gerrymandering. When she "stumbled upon" Voters Not Politicians, "they immediately gave me a job to do, and I started doing it." She quickly rose through the volunteer ranks to become VNP's head of community engagement.

The group's campaign against gerrymandering "really was the baby of a whole new group of activists," Basch says. "People didn't think we were going to succeed because we had no institutional knowledge or experience." But the Indivisibles



### THE "PHONE ACTIVISM FOR INTROVERTS" TRAINING WAS ADVERTISED WITH THE HEADLINE, "WOULD YOU RATHER CLEAN YOUR BATHROOM THAN CALL A SENATOR?"

most groups hold training sessions on a wide variety of communications skills.

Voepel-Lewis describes most of A2D2's work as educational. Their "resistance mantra" is: "Know what's going on at the capital, get involved in everything at the state level, and make calls!"

But for many people, calling your representative "can be terrifying," says Hatcher-Kay. Though the UUCivs are nonpartisan, she's also active in a partisan group, the A2 Citizens Pod. One of her "pod mates," Stephanie Rowden, devised a training called "Phone Activism for Introverts"—which they advertised with the headline, "Would you rather clean your bathroom than call a senator?"

Rachel Tocco, an Indivisible Dexter leader who considers herself an introvert, independently organized her own Activism for Introverts training. It's worked for her: "I've knocked doors, collected signatures. These are all things I'd never done before."

### ACTIVISM AS THERAPY ★

"Our group is really about maintaining morale," Tocco says. Having forged new bonds of friendship, her members have "come to rely on each other in what has been a really crazy and chaotic time."

Hatcher-Kay, a trauma therapist, says she's realized how important it was for her to connect with others, and to recognize "the grief and the shock and the anger" she felt at her country's political turn. "To reduce the risk of PTSD—literally—I wanted to be part of taking action."

"I feel like we're in the fight of our lives," Laura Nathan says. "It's very emotional and energy-consuming ... By doing this and taking action, it's a great antidote to fear and depression."

Local Indivisibles—led by SWIM and the Michigan House Democratic Caucus—are now engaged in a "Flip the

were eager to help. "It was very easy to just hand them the clipboard, and they went out and did it," Basch says. "I loved working with them."

### IN IT TO WIN IT ★

As the deadline looms for accomplishing Indivisible's main mission, nerves are fraying.

"This is consuming my life," Newman says. "This is critical. If we're not successful in November, it's going to be a catastrophe."

"Democracy hangs in the balance, and I am not confident we are going to win," Barry Nathan says. But he remains hopeful that "the grassroots movement will result in an overwhelming response."

"I am not at all hopeful," Mattingly emails. "Republicans are smartly and successfully using the tools of totalitarianism to confuse and divide us. They are benefiting from the terror induced by COVID, the police, and militia killings of activists. It's hard to fight back when you're terrified."

But win, lose, or draw, most Indivisibles say they're in it to stay. Voepel-Lewis, Robinson, and Hadden all view ranked-choice voting as the next likely initiative to pursue. By enabling voters to indicate their next-favorite candidates if their first choice is eliminated, it could make politics less binary.

"I'm an activist for life," Basch says. "I will never be silent again." She notes that volunteers have been engaged since the onset of the pandemic in phone and text banking to inform Michigan residents about how to register, obtain mail-in ballots, and exercise their right to vote.

But with the USPS under siege, and rampant concern about voter suppression, will all votes even be counted? "I will remain concerned until all results are certified," Newman says.



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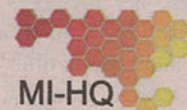


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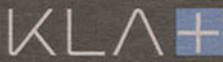




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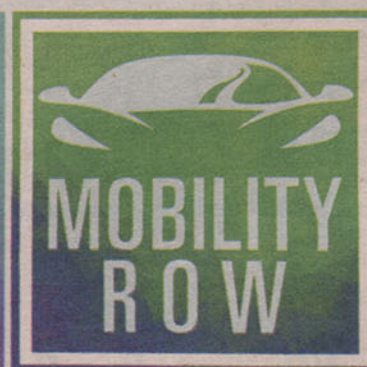
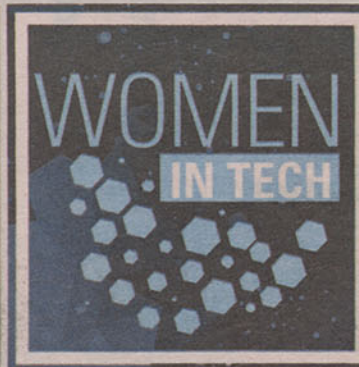
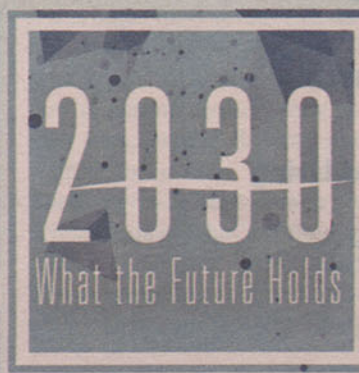
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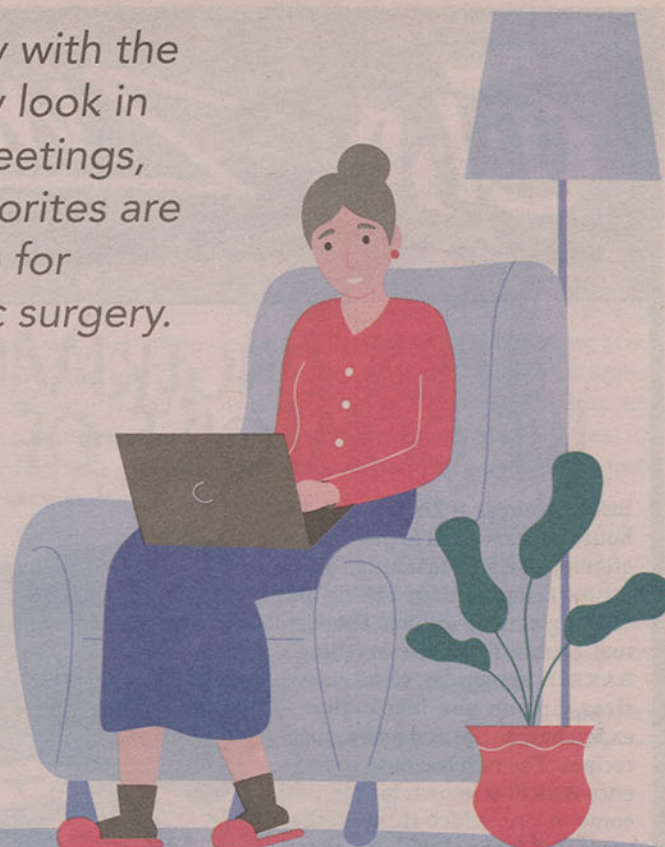
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# Zoom Boom

by Jan Schlain

Unhappy with the way they look in video meetings, Ann Arborites are lining up for cosmetic surgery.



**"I** personally had my eyes done right as soon as we were able," Rick Beil says. "I've seen myself on all those meetings, too!"

Beil, one of the board-certified plastic surgeons at the Center for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, is sixty years old. But what got his attention was the same thing that's sending more patients their way during the pandemic: people suddenly self-conscious about how they look—thanks to online meetings.

"I would say 15, 20 percent say they are there because of Zoom," says Beil. "But the other thing is, even if they're not saying it's because of Zoom, they're saying, 'Look, I have an opportunity to have something done while I'm wearing a mask. And this is the perfect time to get something done.'"

That was the case for "Donna," a patient of Beil's who asked that her name not be used. "With the Covid thing going on, it made sense to do it now," she says, putting me on speaker while getting a pedicure.

"I got a neck lift, and then I got a procedure called 'fat transfer.' It's really cool ... he actually took fat out of my hip area, and then they do some sort of technique where they spin it ('a centrifuge,' her pedicurist chimed in), and then ... they transfer it with a little bit wider needle into wherever you want to get full again. So he transferred it into lines in my face." Together the procedures cost "under \$10,000," she says. Since insurance doesn't cover surgery that's purely cosmetic, she paid out of pocket.

**"I**t's a really interesting concept," says Paul Cederna, chief of plastic surgery at Michigan Medicine. "With the advent of Skype and FaceTime, we saw a lot of people coming in for operations—for instance, on their neck." Because people are "holding their device low ... [they] see extra tissue underneath their chin on their neck that is bothersome to them. And now having to watch themselves in video

meetings "has certainly led people to seek more aesthetic surgery."

Surgery isn't the only solution. Just becoming more sophisticated with video technology can make a big difference. "People have gone with brighter lights to hide wrinkles," Cederna says. "People have gone with higher cameras to hide extra tissue under the chin."

But when that's not enough, "people are pursuing more skin resurfacing techniques, more fillers to fill in small wrinkles, more Botox to address more wrinkles, and certainly more involved operative procedures like neck lifts and facelifts to address any of the elements of an aging face," he says. "We've been very busy—double the amount we did last year at this time. I suspect it's going to get busier in the coming months."

Beil says it's happening at his practice, too. In September, he was already booked for the year and making appointments in January.

But because people are still anxious about coming into a hospital or medical building—or any building for that matter—many are choosing to do pre-op and post-op appointments online. Cederna says he's been "completely shocked at how good the video encounters have been ... I can ask them to do all the things I would ask them to do if I was seeing them in person. The only thing I can't do is, obviously, touch their face and pull their skin, but I can ask them to raise their eyebrows. I can ask them to crinkle their brow. I can ask them to close their eyelids. I can ask them to smile, to pucker their lips, to frown."

And since "the average patient that comes to the University of Michigan takes about a ninety-mile round trip,"

it's a huge time saver. "Think of someone who comes for a typical visit," Cederna says. "They're getting ready to go, they're getting dressed, they're getting in their cars, they're driving, parking, and waiting to be seen. They're being seen. They're getting back in their cars, they're driving home. That's a huge time commitment." For a virtual appointment, "they get on their computer at 10 o'clock, we see them, and by 10:15 we're done."

**H**ow do people pick a surgeon for elective plastic surgery? Googling "plastic surgeons, Ann Arbor" won't separate the good from the bad. "There's no question that there are good surgeons and bad, even in this area," says Cederna. He strongly recommends "selecting a surgeon for cosmetic surgery who is board-certified by the American

Board of Plastic Surgery." Beyond that, the key is "having confidence in the person that they've met; that that person who is going to care for them is going to do the best job they possibly can to get them the outcome they're looking for."

Cederna recently did multiple procedures on a patient in her mid-fifties. Even before surgery, she "looked quite a bit younger than her age—she looked great," he says. "But she had been on a lot of virtual meetings, like many of us are, and she had seen herself over and over, and she did not like the way her neck looked and the way her nasolabial folds looked—the fold between the base of the nose and the corner of the mouth."

"She thought they looked deep, and she thought she had extra skin on her neck. I had a chance to meet her virtually dur-

ing the time when we were not having any clinic visits. And I could see what she was talking about, for sure. The kinds of change we could make with her is the kind of change that would really freshen her up and make her look incredibly well-rested—and not make her look like she was a different person."

"She had the time, because she had been traveling a lot, and she was no longer traveling. And she was really interested in doing it."

Cederna did a facelift, a neck lift, and a "fat graft"—what Donna called a "fat transfer." Adding "subtle amounts of fatty tissue to the face," he explains, "really rejuvenates the face nicely ... We can smooth out the contour between the lower lids and the cheek. We can add a little volume under the cheek to give a little more fullness to the cheek, add a little in the nasolabial folds to flatten them out a little bit. All of us lose a little bit of volume in our lips with age. Just adding a small amount to the lips can make them look just a little bit fuller but not have them look really big. Those procedures in combination with the facelift can make a dramatic difference for people."

"And so we did that operation for her as soon as we were allowed to do elective operations again," in July. "Since then she looks incredible, and she's so happy with the outcome." (She declined to be interviewed, even anonymously.)

The only problem? "She's so proud of the way her face looks, and she's disappointed that she has to wear a mask in public because she wants to show off her face."

But a day will come when we don't need a mask to go out in public safely. When that day comes, Cederna says, "everyone is going to look a little bit older than the time they started wearing a mask. And she's going to look a little bit younger."

**"Donna" paid "under \$10,000" for a neck lift and a "fat transfer"—the surgeon used fat from her hip to fill lines in her face.**



# The Zingerman's Times

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October 2020

printed in ann arbor

land of a thousand flavors

## LEARN ZINGERMAN'S RECIPES IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR KITCHEN

Insider sources at Zingerman's Bakehouse have revealed to the Times that after 15 years of teaching, BAKE! is now bringing their baking and cooking classes online. The virtual classes feature everything BAKE! is known for: small class sizes, one-on-one instruction, expert baking tips and really great recipes. The rich learning experience BAKE! is known for can now come to you, which through the magic of technology, can meet you anywhere! As instructor Meg Panchame shared, "A highlight of the virtual classes is the fact that they bring together people from all over the country and the globe—Massachusetts to California, Israel to Canada, and beyond. Participants enjoy a few hours of fun, creativity, normalcy and comfort."

Virtual BAKE! classes are for anyone, from novices to hobbyists, looking to learn a new skill or practice their craft. It is also an easy way to catch a break from the day-to-day to try something new, without leaving your house. Meg says "It's an opportunity to be creative, nourish your family and your soul, and meet new people."



Also, transplanted Michigan alumni and Zingerman's fans think it's a nice way to connect with Ann Arbor from afar."

Browse virtual baking and cooking classes including pizza, pasta, bagels, brownies, pies and scones at [bakewithzing.com](http://bakewithzing.com).

## zinglish muffins make michigan debut

From the food anthropology desk at the Times comes the story of a late 19th century favorite still proving to be popular today. Historically, English Muffins are generally believed to have been "invented" by Samuel Bath Thomas who brought the recipe to New York City from England. (Back in England, they were known as simply "muffins.") These muffins were said to be Mr. Thomas' family recipe for crumpets, but he took out the baking soda and griddled them on both sides instead of just one (the way a crumpet would be), and behold, the American English Muffin was born. While most American consumers know English muffins well, very few have ever experienced a handmade artisan offering of this sort. A fresh baked local version has arrived in Michigan at Zingerman's Bakehouse. They're using a blend of organic white all purpose and freshly milled soft red wheat from Saline, sea salt, and a small amount of yeast. The bakers then allow about 24 hours of fermentation to let the flavor of the dough develop and griddle them with a touch of butter. Frank Carollo, long time co-managing partner at the Bakehouse says, "The muffins have a wonderful familiar flavor. I find the crumb unique to all of our baked goods in their tenderness and slightly sweet aroma."

You can get the Zinglish Muffins at the Bakehouse, Deli, and Roadhouse on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.

## Local company now hiring seasonal staff

As the country closes in on Election Day November 3, Times local economic correspondent has learned that Zingerman's Mail Order is already hiring for the holiday season. While national unemployment numbers remain high, here in Washtenaw County, Zingerman's is working to do their part in reversing that trend. Zingerman's is hiring workers to ship artisan food gifts across the country. Hiring has begun for a fun, fast-paced holiday season, and there's no experience necessary! In an exclusive interview, Warehouse Leader Shalette said, "I enjoy the hustle and bustle. The buzz at Mail Order is almost magical." Positions are full or part time, day or night shift, and start at a minimum of \$12.50 an hour plus perks, including free lunch served on site daily! Staff member Jason shares with the Times, "Getting the chance to not only work with amazing food, but to enjoy it, is awesome. I had no idea this could all happen in a warehouse."

Find out more and apply now at [zingermansjobs.com](http://zingermansjobs.com).



## new pamphlet on humility by zingerman's co-founder spotted on Local Shelves

The Times has heard hints that a new pamphlet has recently been published by Zingerman's Press. Following on the heels of last summer's "Going into Business with Emma Goldman," and his most recent complete book, *The Power of Beliefs in Business*, "Humility; a Humble and Anarchistic Inquiry" is the latest in a long series of thoughtful and thought-provoking print publications from Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzwieg.

Does humility have much value when the country is in crisis? Weinzwieg answers with an affirmative, "Absolutely! When we approach the world from a place of humility, it makes it much more likely that we will:

- Own our own part in creating the problems that are confronting us,
- Acknowledge our shortfalls and ask for help,
- Understand that none of us have all the answers,
- Accept that many of the approaches we've collectively been working with aren't working."

Humility, Times writers have learned, is a must-have for effective leaders. Patrick Lencioni, in his book, *The Ideal Team Player* lists humility as one of the three critical characteristics we should look for in anyone we consider adding to our organizations. Humility also has huge social value. As James Baldwin wrote, "Love forces, at last, this humility: you cannot love if you cannot be loved, you cannot see if you cannot be seen." Writer Wendell Berry, sees humility as an antidote to a national epidemic of ego. "To counter the ignorant use of knowledge and power," says Berry, "we have...only a proper humility."

The pamphlet, like all of Zingerman's Press' publications, has been designed and printed here in Ann Arbor and is available at all Zingerman's locations, as well as [zingtrain.com](http://zingtrain.com)

## spreadable taste of france arrives in ann arbor

New to your neighborhood Creamery, meet Cerveilles De Canut, a spreadable cheese loaded with herbs. The local inspiration for this French staple comes from Zingerman's Creamery cheese-maker Jules Mons who grew up in Lyon.

Zingerman's take on Cerveilles de Canut is made from the Creamery's fresh goat cheese, olive oil, chives, shallots, black and green peppercorns, and fresh herbs. Our research found it's great on boiled heirloom potatoes and lovely in an omelet. Or try it on a pizza, a bagel, or a Bakehouse baguette. Just as we were heading to the presses, our Times small business desk uncovered the Creamery offers home delivery of their artisan cheese and gelato to more than a dozen Michigan zip codes!

Visit [zingermanscreamery.com](http://zingermanscreamery.com) or your Mercato app to order.



## attention food lovers!



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# Restaurant Reviews

## La Piña Loca

*Sweet, tart, and spicy*

I bet you could use some fun, most any fun. How about batons of fresh fruit sprinkled with lime and chile powder, or a meal where Doritos are the defining taste—and not because you're killing an entire bag with a beer in front of the TV?

True to its name, La Piña Loca (The Crazy Pineapple) offers that kind of fun. A riot of primary colors, the small storefront in a relatively new strip mall on Platt at Ellsworth is the sixth "child" of Gloria Sendejo and her husband Benjamin Garduno. With five kids, Sendejo, particularly, is adept at throwing a party—she also owns Casa de Yoyis Party Rental—and La Piña Loca's Facebook page records her dolled-up children, loaded sweets tables, and extravagant fruit concoctions. Featuring riffs on contemporary Mexican street food, the *paletería* (Mexican popsicle shop) bedazzles more traditional snacks, ice creams, and desserts with mass-produced oddities spilled from crinkly bags.

Take the *elote*. Typically, it's an ear of corn slathered with mayonnaise, Tajín (Mexican chile powder), and queso fresco. At La Piña Loca you can, if you wish, also get it dusted with crushed Doritos, hot Cheetos, or Takis spicy tortilla chips. American palates are usually suckers for crunch and crackle, so who among us can resist that extra bit of savor? And if you prefer easier eating, you can order *esquites*, a large cup of warm corn kernels dressed in similar fashion.

Besides corn, La Piña Loca has a few other savory options—tamales occasionally, but more often *chicharón* preparado. The latter begins with a *chicharón* de harina, a compressed flour-based square that, when fried, puffs and expands into a giant airy, crispy wafer. This base is then layered with warm *cueritos* (pickled pork rind slices), cabbage or lettuce, tomato, cucumber, carrot, and avocado, and finished off with zigzags of mayonnaise and hot sauce. (To prevent soggy, to-go orders slide the *chicharón* to the



KATHERINE DOWNIE

side.) While my husband ate his *chicharón* preparado with raised eyebrows, especially when I explained the slippery curls of pork rind, he finished it, and I loved mine, in a decadent sort of way. If I'm ever there when they have the shrimp

ceviche version, I'll be sure to try it.

But La Piña Loca is really about sweet, and often about that jangly spot where sweet, tart, and spicy collide. The treat that gives La Piña Loca its name is half a hollowed pineapple piled high with diced fruit and gummy and tamarind (sour fruit) candies, all mingling with both hot sauce and *chamoy* sauce, a salty, sweet, spicy Mexican condiment. Absolutely delicious and a must-try is the *mangonada*, a swirled formulation of mango ice cream, diced mango, and *chamoy* sauce, garnished with a straw wrapped in an addictive tamarind paste that is as salty as it is tart and sweet.

Naturally, as a *paletería*, La Piña Loca offers other ice cream drinks and concoctions, along with snow cones and, of course, *paletas* (popsicles), but in the Mexican, not American, style—expect embellishments and flavors that reflect

that tropical clime and culture. The sheer number of *paleta* flavors is astonishing, ranging from *guayaba* (guava), *kiwi con fresa*, (strawberry) and *sandía* (watermelon) to *piña con chile*, *arroz con leche* (rice pudding), and *cajeta* (dulce de leche caramel). I couldn't possibly name you a favorite, but I can tell you an assortment is a lot of fun at a party. (Be warned that the popsicle wrappings don't list their flavors; discovery will be part of your guests' merriment.)

Even if you're just looking for a bag of Doritos to go with your beer, La Piña Loca has you covered. *Dori locos* embellishes the chips with peanuts, *cueritos*, jalapeños, and hot sauce—a lot of fun that you can set next to you on the couch.

—Lee Lawrence

**La Piña Loca**  
3980 Platt Rd.  
(734) 929-5487

Daily noon–9 p.m.

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## table talk

Just after noon on a Saturday, Sherry Stephens of Ann Arbor tried the door at MD Bagel Fragel at 3500 Washtenaw Ave.

It was locked, even though the store's regular hours are 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

A sign on the door read, "Due to an overwhelming demand in our freshly baked bagels, we have sold out. We will re-open tomorrow at 6:30 am with more daily fresh bagels and fragels."

Bagels, a necessity for many Ann Arborites, have been scarcer since the pandemic, echoing a national trend.

The best bet for finding them has been chains like Barry Bagels, Panera, and Bruegger's.

The Produce Station has stopped carrying Elaine's Bagels, which it

used to display in a bakery case. For sanitary reasons, it now offers packaged H&H Bagels shipped from New York instead.

Produce Station vice president Andrew Gorsuch says it's frustrating. "The pinnacle of a bagel is one that's fresh and sold the same day," he says.

Meanwhile, Zingerman's Bakehouse has reduced frequency and flavors.

Bakehouse partner Amy Emberling says demand from many wholesale customers plummeted when the state's shutdown order took effect last spring—"to a point where it actually didn't make sense to make them."

Instead of a dozen rotating flavors, they now bake only five, and only on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. The

popular Bagel Tuesday promotion—buy six, get six free—is gone.

MD Bagel Fragel owner Patricia Rockette says she used to sell as many as 2,000 bagels a day at her old location on Plymouth Rd. "Now, I'm lucky if I can sell 200," she says.

So she's baking fewer and has to guess what varieties might sell. "I can make anything you want," she says. "I just won't make it otherwise."

Rockette urges customers to call ahead to reserve their bagels and avoid being disappointed, like Stephens, who explains her love for bagels this way:

"They make you happy. It's a carb. What can I say?"

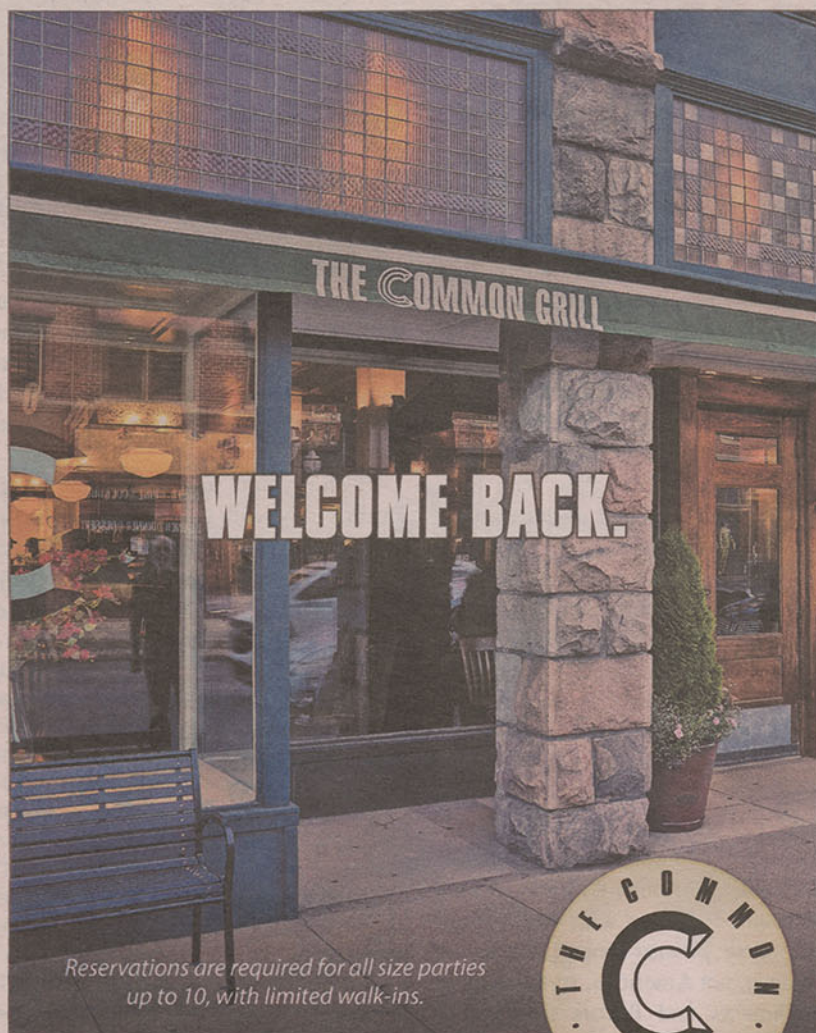
—Micheline Maynard

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# Marketplace Changes

by Micheline Maynard

## A Flurry of Moves

*Necessity and opportunity put businesses in motion.*

After fifty-six years at 814 S. State, **Pizza Bob's** moved up the block to more spacious digs at the corner of Hill in September. It opened as **Pizza Loy & Dairy Joy** in 1964, and was renamed eight years later after pizza maker Bob Marsh, who had died the year before.

Covid-19 hastened the need for more space, says Pam Pietryga. She bought the restaurant with her husband Terry in 2000, making them the fourth set of owners.

The longtime location had a single table and an eight-stool counter, but was packed so tightly that when the pandemic hit, "we just couldn't have anybody sit inside," Pietryga says.

The new location has outdoor seating for twenty-five in normal times, fifteen with social distancing. Pre-pandemic, it could seat sixteen inside and another twenty-five or thirty in a room downstairs, which Pietryga envisions using for small groups.

There's also room to manufacture bottles of Chipati sauce, which goes on the salad-stuffed pitas that are the restaurant's claim to fame. The restaurant sells bottles for \$7 each and ships them nationwide with a minimum order of three.

"We can't ship a Chipati, but we can ship the sauce," Pietryga jokes.

Covid changed the mix of Pizza Bob's most popular items, she says. In 2019, Chipatis accounted for about half of their sales. Another 25 percent was pizza, and the rest submarine sandwiches and calzones.

Since March, pizza and calzones have taken the top spot, says Pietryga. "People like to grab it and go home."

There's another item on the menu: face masks, printed with Marsh's image. They began as a giveaway when the restaurant reopened after the move and now sell for \$7 each. "We're all forced to wear them, so why not have a little style?" she asks.

Despite other restaurant closures in the area, Pietryga kept the restaurant running continuously through the pandemic, focusing on curbside pickup and delivery.

The departure of students from campus in March meant she also lost many of her employees. She stepped in to work regular shifts, relying on locally based family members for backup, including two of her five sons and her grandchildren.

Pietryga originally had hoped to turn over the restaurant to her sons by now. Instead, she's personally delivering orders to campus customers.

Pizza Bob's delivery area is limited, but they'll make an exception for especially large orders. For about two months this spring, she says, a group of regular customers in Birmingham placed weekly orders for about \$400 in food. Those Pizza



Pizza Bob's had been at 814 S. State for fifty-six years—but with social distancing, says Pam Pietryga, "we just couldn't have anybody sit inside."



Social distancing was an issue for Matt Bradish, too—at **Underground Sounds**' former spot on E. Liberty, he had to turn away ten to twenty people a day.

Bob's fans set up tables and chairs in their garages to dine on their takeout.

Pietryga provided free delivery. "It was a big enough order that we were glad to do it," she says.

The pandemic "has been difficult," she admits. "We have our ups and downs."

"We're tired, because we're putting in more hours," she says. "But we're doing everything we can to survive this and provide high quality food and service."

**Pizza Bob's**, 800 S. State (734) 665-4517 Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday noon-10 p.m. [pizzabobs.net](http://pizzabobs.net)

At **Underground Sounds**, Matt Bradish was planning a Record Store Day event on Sept. 26, with special items for vinyl fanatics. Immediately afterward, he planned to pack up 100 crates of vinyl records and other gear and start moving out of his store at 255 E. Liberty. He aims to reopen on Oct. 1 at 210 S. Main.

From 1986 to 2017, that address was home to the **Peaceable Kingdom**, Carol

Lopez's tartly whimsical gift and folk art shop. But she closed it three years ago, saying downtown's diminishing retail ecosystem and other factors made it impossible to operate profitably.

Lopez's son, Mark Wilfong, reports that she is doing well and staying busy gardening. Over the years they talked to numerous potential tenants, he says, but couldn't reach a deal.

"Good stewardship of this historically significant property has been and continues to be our paramount concern," Wilfong adds in a text message.

"Mr. Bradish is a local, a hard-grinding retailer and he is selling an art form that can be enjoyed in the safety of one's home. Pandemic or not, **Underground Sounds** is an excellent fit for the space."

Bradish says that for him, the main appeal of the new location is foot traffic. "It's a much busier block," he says. "It's not across the street from the Federal Building, which is dead after 5 p.m." and with Covid social distancing restrictions, he could allow only four people at a time inside the 550-square-foot space.

Now, with 1,400 square feet, he can safely accommodate ten.

"Man, I can't wait," Bradish says. "I turn away ten to twenty people a day." He's also excited to be across the street from comic book store **Vault of Midnight**—they have a lot of customers in common.

**Underground Sounds**, through Sept. 26: 255 E. Liberty. Starting Oct. 1: 210 S. Main (734) 327-9239. Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m. [ugsounds.com](http://ugsounds.com)

**Sweeting**, the bubble tea and sweet shop, has moved its original location a few

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## Marketplace Changes

doors closer to campus, from 1213 South University to 1205. (734) 213-3300. [sweetingannarbor.com](http://sweetingannarbor.com)

**Silvio's Organic Ristorante e Pizzeria** planned to close its location at 715 North University on Sept. 30 and move to Canton. It hopes to open there in November.

"We wanted to thank everyone for the love and support that you have given us," Silvio's said in a mid-September Facebook post. "We will miss Ann Arbor."

## Briefly Noted

**Cinnabon** has returned to Briarwood mall after a two-year absence. Its new spot is at the west end of the mall near JCPenney. (734) 327-4360. [cinnabon.com](http://cinnabon.com)

In the mall's youth-oriented east wing, **American Eagle Outfitters** moved its denim-and-casualwear collections to a new spot across the hall and gained a corporate sister. **Aerie** sells women's lingerie, casual apparel, and a new "athleisure" line across from J. Crew.

The giant former Sears store remains vacant, with no future plans for in sight. But another big hole is filled, at least for this month: **Spirit Halloween**, the nation's largest Halloween retailer, has opened in the former MC Sports space, near Penney's on the mall's southwest side.

## Closings

Anyone who has dined in downtown Ann Arbor since 1987 has probably eaten at **Gratzi**. Some older Ann Arborites even remember when the building at 326 S. Main housed the Orpheum Theater.

But now Gratzi is indefinitely closed. In August, the Italian restaurant's Facebook page said it was taking a "brainstorming break."

Kevin Gudejko, president and CEO of Main Street Ventures, says it came down to a basic business calculation.

Over the past few months, MSV has looked at the income being generated across its portfolio, which includes twenty-one restaurants in fourteen cities and five states.

"I think everybody's looking at assessing their business model," Gudejko says. "We're rightsizing, for lack of a better term."

The review found that 50 percent of the company's revenue now comes from outdoor dining. So that was a key factor in examining its four restaurants on the 300 block of S. Main: Gratzi and the Chop House on the west side, the Real Seafood Company and Palio on the east side.

The math explains the decision. The average bill at the Chop House is \$75 per person, including alcohol, Gudejko says, while a diner at Gratzi typically spent \$40. (Palio's average is only \$25 per person, but it does the highest volume of the four restaurants, because it has seating available on its roof and at street level.)

So they decided to give the Chop House all their outdoor seats on the west side. "The demand of outdoor dining was moving more to the Chop House than to Gratzi," he says.

Gudejko emphasizes that Gratzi isn't closed for good but can't say whether the shutdown will be short-term or long-term. "We'll come back at Gratzi at some point," he says.

Social distancing isn't an issue for the space, which has a big main room and a balcony with additional seating. "It was not so much about capacity; it became an economic decision to look at what was the best avenue forward for us," Gudejko says.

Mainstreet Ventures has made a similar calculation for another one of its restaurants, Carson's American Bistro, at 2000 Commonwealth Blvd. While it also has a sizeable dining room, it remains closed for dine-in business but is open for curbside pickup and delivery orders.

Gudejko said Carson's relies on customers from North Campus and surrounding businesses, and, with so many people working from home, it did not make sense to offer sit-down service. He said Mainstreet will reassess Carson's situation in October.

2020

Recycle Ann Arbor's **ReUse Center** on South Industrial Hwy. shut its doors on March 17, after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced Covid-19 restrictions. In June, RAA said it was working to reopen the 20,000-square-foot center, which sold everything from toys to toothbrushes, coffee mugs to clothes, and books to building materials. But in September, it announced that the closure would be permanent.

"We did not make this decision lightly; the ReUse Center—its mission, staff, and customers are dear to us," the nonprofit said in a statement on its website.

"However, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges of implementing sufficient health and safety protocols at a thrift store along with an inability to negotiate fair and sustainable rent terms with our landlord, it is not feasible for us to reopen."

Recycle Ann Arbor said the move did not mark an end to its retail efforts but was "merely a pause, while we re-envision what our future reuse efforts will involve."

The organization encouraged customers to shop at other area thrift stores. "We hope that you will continue to reuse, repair, refurbish, and donate usable goods to the many local thrift stores," it said.

Recycle Ann Arbor continues to provide recycling and waste services at the Drop-Off Station (2950 E. Ellsworth) and the Recovery Yard (7891 Jackson). It also was recently awarded a contract to reopen the city's Materials Recovery Facility—see Inside Ann Arbor, p. 11.

2020

**Jos. A. Bank**, the men's clothier in Arborland, has closed. Tailored Brands, which owns Jos. A. Bank and Men's Wearhouse, announced plans to close up to 500 stores in July and filed for bankruptcy in August.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email [marketplace@aaobserver.com](mailto:marketplace@aaobserver.com).

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# October Events

## SENIORS

- 37 Events for older adults**  
Ella Bourland & Maggie McMillin

## FILMS

- 42 Viewings this month**  
Ella Bourland & Maggie McMillin

## EVENTS REVIEWS

- 40 Takács Quartet**  
Echoes and premonitions  
arwulf arwulf

## GALLERIES

- 43 Exhibits this month**  
Maggie McMillin

## KIDS CALENDAR

- 44 Events for kids 12 and under**  
Ella Bourland & Maggie McMillin

## TIPS FOR READING

This month's calendar includes both online and in-person events. Due to the **Covid-19 pandemic**, all listed in-person events are contingent upon the venue's operational status. Published events reflect plans as of press day (19 September), while the most up-to-date calendar is available at [AnnArborObserver.com](http://AnnArborObserver.com).

Our online calendar is not only an expanded version of the print calendar but is also continually updated and searchable. It includes listings, submitted by the public, of classes, religious services, political activities, and other types of events not suitable for print.

### ★ Denotes a free event

All phone numbers have area code (734), unless otherwise noted.

Recurrent events are listed only on the date of their 1st occurrence, except for performing arts, which are always listed on each day they

occur. Thus, the first week of each month will always contain information about events throughout the month.

### We want to know about your event!

Please send us your press release by the **10th day of the preceding month**.

- Email: [events@aaobserver.com](mailto:events@aaobserver.com)
- Phone: 769-3175

### What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor entertainment and other leisure events, but we also list activities elsewhere in Washtenaw County deemed of interest to our readers.

Please submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the 10th might not be included in the print calendar but will be added to our online calendar at [AnnArborObserver.com](http://AnnArborObserver.com). Due to space limitations, many listings, especially for weekday daytime and recurrent events, appear only in the online calendar.

## 1 THURSDAY

**"Poverty, Inequity, and Disparity": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Thursday Morning Lecture Series.** Oct. 1, 8, & 15. The last 3 in a series of 6 weekly talks by various speakers. Oct. 1: U-M public policy professor Sarah Miller on **"The Short-Term and Long-Term Impacts of Health Care Access for Low Income Americans."** Oct. 8: U-M urban and regional planning professor Lan Deng on **"Building and Preserving Affordable Housing in the United States: Federal Resources and Local Efforts."** Oct. 15: U-M sociology, Afroamerican & African studies, and public policy professor Alford Young Jr. on **"From the Edge of the Ghetto: The Quest of Small City African Americans to Survive Post-Industrialism."** 10-11:30 a.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 per lecture (for 6-lecture series, \$60); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$35 for 6-lecture series; \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

**Country Fair: Wiard's Orchards.** Every Wed.-Sun. A carnival atmosphere with a variety of family-oriented fall activities on this 6th-generation family farm. Wagon rides, a petting farm, a corn maze, a Corn Queen Combine playground, and much more. Weekends only: a Noah's Ark inflatable, a giant slide, a bungee run, and more. Apple cannon & paintball shooting gallery available Sat. & Sun. for an extra charge. Cider and donuts available. No pets. Social distancing enforced, masks required. 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Wiard's Orchards, 5565 Merritt Rd., Ypsilanti. Weekend admission: \$20; weekday admission: \$15; kids age 2 & under, free. 390-9211.

★ **Rasa Festival: Akshara.** Oct. 1 & every Sat. & Sun except Oct. 31. Online festival celebrating traditional and contemporary South Asian music and art. Program includes livestream

dances, music, films, spoken word poetry, and lectures on fashion design, craft traditions, and art history. Also, online photography and multimedia art exhibits. Details TBA, check [Facebook.com/AksharaArtsOrg](http://Facebook.com/AksharaArtsOrg) for more information. 11 a.m.-noon, [Facebook.com/AksharaArtsOrg](http://Facebook.com/AksharaArtsOrg). Free. [RasaFestival.org](http://RasaFestival.org).

★ **"WordPress Website Workshop": MacTechnics.** All invited to learn how to use WordPress to create a website. Step-by-step instructions provided by a club member. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., for meeting URL email [Contact@mactechnics.org](mailto:Contact@mactechnics.org). Free. [Mactechnics.org](http://Mactechnics.org)

★ **Gemini Livestream Concert.** Every weekday except Wed. Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits, nationally renowned as the local acoustic duo Gemini, are joined by San's folk musician daughter Emily in short livestream concerts on their Facebook page. The schedule (subject to change): children's shows by San & Emily (Mon.) and Laz (Thurs.) and "grown-ups" shows by Laz (Tues.) and San & Emily (Fri.). 5 p.m., [Facebook.com/GeminiChildrensMusic](http://Facebook.com/GeminiChildrensMusic). Free, but donations for Food Gatherers or a charity of your choice accepted during each performance.

★ **"Inspired By ...": Neighborhood Theatre Group.** Every Thurs. Five original 10-minute virtual staged readings by local playwrights of plays inspired by different songs. Readings include light props and costumes. Tonight: Marisa Dlugie directs **Letting Go**, Crysta Coblentz's drama based on Joni Mitchell's "A Case of You," about trying to let go of the past while finding new footing. 7 p.m., online via YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, & Patreon (search "Neighborhood Theatre Group"). Free; donations appreciated. (219) 201-6979.

★ **Edward D. Melillo: At Home with Literati.** This Amherst College history professor reads from **The Butterfly Effect**, his new book about the bonds between humans and insects. It draws

on research in laboratory science, agriculture, fashion, and international cuisine. Questions and commentary throughout by U-M history professor Ian Shin. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). Free. 585-5567.

**Kevin Morby: The Ark.** Oct. 1, 8, & 15. Indie rock singer-songwriter from Lubbock, TX. In advance of the release of his 6th album **Sundowner**, Morby plays songs from each of his albums in separate virtual concerts. Oct. 1: **City Music** (2017), which has earned Morby comparisons to Lou Reed. Oct. 8: **Oh My God** (2019), which a *Pitchfork* reviewer says "conjures memories of Bob Dylan's gospel-phase." Oct. 15: Premiere of **Sundowner**, which Morby calls "a depiction of isolation." 9 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$15 at [NoonChorus.com/TheArkAnnArbor-Morby](http://NoonChorus.com/TheArkAnnArbor-Morby). 761-1451.

## 2 FRIDAY

★ **"Real-World Perspectives Speaker Series": U-M Poverty Solutions.** Every Fri., Sept. 25-Nov. 6. Virtual lecture series. Oct. 2: L.A.-based writer Michael Arceneaux discusses his nervy new autobiography **I Don't Want to Die Poor**, about his life as a young gay black man in a country that is crushing him with debt. Oct. 2: Dignity + Debt Network director Frederick Wherry on **"The Weight of Debt, the Dignity of Debtors."** Oct. 9: Michigan Health and Human Services director Joneigh Khaldun and Michigan lieutenant governor Garlin Gilchrist on **"Life During Covid-19."** Oct. 16: U-M social work professor H. Luke Shaefer on **"Understanding Communities of Deep Disadvantage."** Oct. 23: University of Chicago public policy professor Ariel

Kalil on **"Behavioral Insights and Parental Decision-Making: A New Framework for Supporting Low Income Families."** Oct. 30: *New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof on **"Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope."** With a response by Michigan Health & Human Services chief medical executive Joneigh Khaldun. Nov. 6: South Bronx-based urban revitalization strategist and community-oriented real estate developer Majora Carter on **"Community as Corporation: Talent Retention in Low-Status America."** 1:30 p.m., online at [poverty.umich.edu/news-events](http://poverty.umich.edu/news-events). Free. [PovertySolutions@umich.edu](mailto:PovertySolutions@umich.edu)

**Blast Corn Maze.** Every Fri.-Sun., Sept. 26-Nov. 7. A large corn maze with 3.5 miles of trails and 3 exits to allow for routes of various lengths. Also, a u-pick pumpkin patch, produce, craft sale, hayrides, a kids play area, and more. Maps available (\$1). 5-10 p.m. (Fri.), 11 a.m.-10 p.m. (Sat.), & 11 a.m.-8 p.m. (Sun.), 6175 Daly Rd., Dexter. \$10 (ages 5-12, \$7; age 4 & under, free). [BlastCornMaze.com](http://BlastCornMaze.com)

★ **"The Flea Circus."** Every Fri. Local pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun plays an outdoor concert of jazz, boogie-woogie & more on his portable "piano bike," with veteran local drummer Pete Siers on drums & washboard. 6-8 p.m., corner of Catherine St. & Detroit St. Free. [Facebook.com/MrBMarkLincolnBraun](http://Facebook.com/MrBMarkLincolnBraun)

★ **First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** All invited to a brief Shabbat observance with secular readings, candle lighting, wine rituals, challah, and Yahrzeit observance to remember loved ones. 7:30 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at

## seniors

★ **"Virtual Senior Living Week Expo": Housing Bureau for Seniors.** Sept. 26-Oct. 2. The 21st annual Senior Living & Housing Awareness Week, online this year, features talks exploring a variety of housing issues for seniors. For a complete schedule of virtual presentations (preregistration required) and resources, including the "Grab & Go Expo Bag," see [med.umich.edu/seniors](http://med.umich.edu/seniors). Times TBA, online at [med.umich.edu/seniors](http://med.umich.edu/seniors). Free. 998-9339, [HousingBureauSeniors@umich.edu](mailto:HousingBureauSeniors@umich.edu)

**U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program,** 998-9353. Free (except as noted) virtual activities, social groups, and talks. For online meeting URL, email [info.twsp@umich.edu](mailto:info.twsp@umich.edu) or call. **Tai Chi.** Beginners welcome. Mon., Wed., & Fri., noon-12:30 p.m. **Walking off the Pounds.** Guided steps to walk in place. Mon., Wed., & Fri., 12:30-1 p.m. **Lunch for Older Adults.** Every Tues., noon. \$3 for age 60 & over (age 59 &

under, \$5.50). Limited capacity; preregister 2 days in advance. **"Una Tertulia."** Socializing group for Spanish speakers. Oct. 6 & 20, 3-4 p.m. **"Coffee with a Cop."** All invited to discuss home safety, scams, and other topics with city police officer Douglas Martelle. Oct. 6, 11 a.m.-noon. **"Effects of Weight Gain in Later Years and How to Make Positive Changes."** Talk by U-M family medicine clinical lecturer Shenbagam Dewar. Oct. 14, 10-11:30 a.m. **"Disaster Preparedness."** Talk by AmeriCorps disaster cycle services member Emily Thayer. Oct. 19, 10:30-noon. **"Learning to Make a Quiche."** Demo by a Hillside Terrace chef. Oct. 20, 2-3 p.m. **"What's New With Medicare in 2021?"** Talk by Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program patient advocate Melissa Devine. Oct. 21, 2-3:30 p.m. **"Understanding Behavior Change in Dementia."** Talk by Turner Geriatric Clinic social worker Beth Spencer.



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★**Penny Stamps Speaker Series: U-M School of Art & Design.** Every Fri. Livestream talks by various artists. Oct. 2: Acclaimed documentarian **Ken Burns**, an Ann Arbor native, and journalist **Isabel Wilkerson**, the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in journalism, on “**The Complexities of the American Narrative**.” Moderated by journalist and U-M employee **Lynette Clemetson**. Oct. 9: Product designer **Bilge Nur Saltik**, artist & designer **Aaron Blendowski**, and curator **Alison Wong** on the concept and development of *Never Normal*, Detroit-based design collective Form&Seek’s current exhibition about our personal relationships to domestic landscapes. Oct. 16: D.C.-based artist and cultural strategist **Philippa Hughes** on “**Dismantling the Polarization Industrial Complex**.” Oct. 23: U-M Institute for the Humanities curator **Amanda Krugliak**, UMMA contemporary art curator **Ozi Uduma**, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (Detroit) president **Neil Alan Barclay**, and Ghanaian installation artist **Ibrahim Mahama** discuss the significance of public art in times of crisis. Oct. 30: MTV World founder **Nusrat Durrani** screens and discusses *An American Prayer*, his film about the magic and loss of the American dream. 8 p.m., online at [stamps.umich.edu/stamps](http://stamps.umich.edu/stamps) or [dptv.org](http://dptv.org). Free. 936-0671.

★**8 Ball Patio Series: The Blind Pig.** Every Fri. & Sat. (weather permitting). A variety of artists TBA performing from the rooftop for patrons seated on the 8 Ball patio. 8–9 p.m. or later, patio adjacent to the 8 Ball Saloon entrance of the Blind Pig, 208 S. First. No cover. 996-8555.

★**“Jazz After Dark”: Weber’s Inn.** Every Fri. & Sat. Jazz originals and standards by a trio (Fri.) or quartet (Sat.) led by veteran local bassist **Rob Crozier**. 9–11 p.m., terrace outside Weber’s Habitat Lounge, 3050 Jackson. No cover. 665-3636.

★**The Infamous Stringdusters: The Ark.** Oct. 2–4. Highly regarded young bluegrass band from Nashville that blends traditional instrumentation and vocal styling with a penchant for jam-style improvisation. It was the first band ever to win the International Bluegrass Music Association awards for Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Emerging Artist in a single year. 10 p.m. (Fri.), 8 p.m. (Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sun.), online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Ticket prices TBA. 761-1451.

### 3 SATURDAY

★**“Ann Arbor Group Runs”: Running Fit.** Every Sat. & Mon. Runners of all abilities invited to join a 3–8 mile run along varying routes from different Running Fit locations. Also, a speed-training session (every Tues. 6:30 p.m., 5700 Jackson Rd.). Snacks. Rain or shine. 8 a.m. (Sat.), 5700 Jackson Rd. and 6:30 p.m. (Mon.), 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769-5016 (Mon.), 929-9022 (Tues. & Sat.).

★**“Housing Access and Affordability in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County”: Washtenaw County Democratic Party.** Roundtable discussion on the proposed millage on the November ballot to fund housing affordable to low-income residents. With Ann Arbor mayor **Christopher Taylor**, Washtenaw Housing Alliance director **Amanda Carlisle**, Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development interim director **Teresa Gillotti**, 14A-1 District Court judge **J. Cedric Simpson**, Avalon Housing director **Aubrey Patiño**, and City of Ypsilanti housing, affordability, and accessibility subcommittee member **Desirée Simmons**. The meeting starts with a chance to meet Democratic candidates running for various local offices and ends with an update on measures the state has taken in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. 9 a.m.–noon or so, for online meeting URL see [bit.ly/laborpolicecommunity](http://bit.ly/laborpolicecommunity). Free. 883-8250.

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**“Creature Encounters”: The Creature Conservancy.** Every Sat. & Sun. Conservancy staffers show off their sloth, boa con-

strictor, and armadillo. Also, a chance to see the conservancy’s other animals, including a cougar, alligators, and a bald eagle. Attendance limited to 30% capacity. 1–2:30 p.m. & 3–4:30 p.m., *Creature Conservancy*, 4950 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$10 (kids ages 2–12, \$8; age 2 & under, free) in advance only at [TheCreatureConservancy.org](http://TheCreatureConservancy.org). 929-9324.

★**The Black Feathers: The Ark Family Room Series.** Americana, folk, and acoustic indie rock by this U.K.-based duo of vocalist **Sian Chandler** and guitarist and vocalist **Ray Hughes**. 4 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

★**“Night Terrors”: Wiard’s Orchards.** Every Sat. & Sun. Four scary attractions—the haunted hayride, the haunted barn, the Asylum, and the MindShift—featuring costumed monsters. Refreshments available. Age 10 & under must be with an adult. Social distancing enforced, masks required. 7:15–10 p.m., 5565 Merritt Rd., Ypsilanti. Ticket prices TBA at [HauntedHouseMichigan.com](http://HauntedHouseMichigan.com). 390-9212.

★**The Moth StorySLAM: Michigan Radio.** Virtual storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit that also produces a weekly public radio show. Storytellers are selected at random to tell a 3–5 minute story—this month’s theme is “**Disguises**”—and judged by an audience poll at the end of the show. Wear your fake mustaches, heel lifts, cloaks, or a giant hot dog costume, if you like. 7:30 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [TheMoth.org](http://TheMoth.org). Tickets \$10 per household. 764-5118.

★**The Infamous Stringdusters: The Ark.** See 2 Friday. 8 p.m.

### 4 SUNDAY

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**Sunday Artisan Market.** Every Sun. Juried market of local handmade arts and crafts. Social distancing enforced. 11 a.m.–4 p.m., *Farmers Market*, Kerrytown. Free admission. 913-9622.

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** Every Sun. All invited to join a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. 11:15 a.m., *Fuller Park*, just west of the pool & parking lot (or occasionally across the street). Free. 846-9418, [hac-UltimateList@GoogleGroups.com](mailto:hac-UltimateList@GoogleGroups.com)

★**Sunday Talks: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** Every Sun. Jewel Heart’s resident spiritual advisor **Demo Rinpoche** reflects on and discusses how to implement in ordinary life Tibetan Buddhist teachings on such matters as wisdom, generosity, patience, and enthusiasm. 11 a.m., for livestream URL preregister at [bit.ly/jewelbuddhismtalk](http://bit.ly/jewelbuddhismtalk). Free. 994-3387.

★**“Faith and Race”: First Presbyterian Church Exploring the Faith Series.** Oct. 4, 11, & 18. All invited to watch various prerecorded videos from the film series *Covenantal Restoration: The Work of the People*. Followed by a group discussion led by First Presbyterian staffers. Oct. 4: “**A Beloved Community with René August**,” about the history of South African apartheid. Oct. 11: “**Restoration of Relationship with Reggie Williams**,” about how the church has promoted white supremacy and idealism. Oct. 18: “**The Idol of Whiteness with Jim Wallis**,” about how multiculturalism is changing America for the better. 12:15 p.m., for online meeting URL see [FirstPresbyterian.org](http://FirstPresbyterian.org). Free. 662-4466.

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** Oct. 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, & 25. All invited to help remove invasive plants in city parks. Wear a mask, long pants, closed-toe shoes, & work gloves, and maintain a 6-foot distance from others at all times; tools, snacks, & know-how provided. All minors should be accompanied by a caregiver. Oct. 4 (1–4 p.m.): Marshall Nature Area. Oct. 10 (9 a.m.–noon): Scarlett Mitchell Nature Area. Oct. 10 (1–4 p.m.): Mary Beth Doyle Park. Oct. 11 (1–4 p.m.): Huron Parkway Nature Area. Oct. 17 (9 a.m.–noon): Stapp Nature Area. Oct. 17 (1–4 p.m.): Leslie Woods Nature Area. Oct. 18 (1–4 p.m.): Black Pond Woods Nature Area. Oct. 25 (1–4 p.m.): Narrow Gauge Way Nature Area. Various times and locations. Free, but

preregistration required at [Secure.Recl.com/MI/city-of-ann-arbor/catalog](http://Secure.Recl.com/MI/city-of-ann-arbor/catalog) (click on “NAP Workdays”). 794-6627.

★**“Heckuva Hike”: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist **Kelsey Dehring** leads a 3–4 mile hike along the Superior Greenway. Bring a mask and weather appropriate clothing, and water. 2 p.m., *LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve*, 2252 N. Prospect Rd., Superior Twp. Free, preregistration required by emailing [dehringk@washtenaw.org](mailto:dehringk@washtenaw.org). [Washtenaw.org/Parks](http://Washtenaw.org/Parks)

★**The Infamous Stringdusters: The Ark.** See 2 Friday. 3 p.m.

★**“All About The Trio”: Kerrytown Concert House Live at the 415 Series.** U-M jazz piano professor **Ellen Rowe** leads her trio in a lecture-concert on staying musically active during the pandemic. Featuring original compositions written in lockdown. With bassist **Paul Keller** and drummer **Pete Siers**. 4:15 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415). Free; donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**Kylee Phillips: The Ark Family Room Series.** Pop-folk singer-songwriter and pianist from Plymouth known for her intimate performing style and probingly personal lyrics. 7:30 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

### 5 MONDAY

★**“Trumpocalypse: Restoring American Democracy”: U-M Ford School for Public Policy.** The Atlantic staff writer (and former speechwriter for President George W. Bush) **David Frum** discusses his new book on the impact of the Trump presidency on American political culture. U-M public policy professor **Megan Tompkins-Stange** moderates. 4–5 p.m., for online meeting URL see [FordSchool.umich.edu/events](http://FordSchool.umich.edu/events). Free. 764-3490.

★**Taisia Kitaiskaia: At Home with Literati.** This Russian-born, Texas-based poet reads from *The Nightgown and Other Poems*, her new collection reimagining traditional fairy tales with dark feminist humor. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). Free. 585-5567.

### 6 TUESDAY

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies.** Every Tues. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Oct. 6: U-M sociology professor **Xiaohong Xu** on “**The Great Separation: How the Cultural Revolution Has Shaped Contemporary China and Its Relationship to Global Capitalism**.” Oct. 13: U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies postdoctoral fellow **Jundai Liu** on “**Civic Solidarity: Sustaining Contention and Building Democratic Institutions in Contemporary Village China**.” Oct. 20: Reed College anthropology professor **Charlene Makley** on “**Oral History and Fugitive (Non)presence: The Afterlives of the Tenth Panchen Lama in China’s Tibet**.” Oct. 27: UMMA Asian art curator **Natsu Oyobe** on “**Monumental Friendship: Chinese Ceramics in the James Marshall Plumer Memorial Collection at the University of Michigan Museum of Art**.” Noon, for online meeting URL see [ii.umich.edu/lrccs](http://ii.umich.edu/lrccs). Free. 764-6308.

★**“American Nations: The Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America”: U-M Margaret Waterman Town Hall Lecture Series.** *Portland Press Herald* (ME) state & national affairs journalist **Colin Woodard** discusses his popular 2011 book. The Waterman series also includes lectures in Nov., Apr., & May. 1–2:30 p.m., for meeting URL preregister at [WatermanAlumnae.org](http://WatermanAlumnae.org). \$100 in advance only for the 4-lecture series. Info: [mary.mcclusky@icloud.com](mailto:mary.mcclusky@icloud.com) [WatermanAlumnae.org](http://WatermanAlumnae.org)

★**Book Discussion: Ann Arbor District Library.** Ann Arborite **Will Jones III**, a descendant of the first recorded African born on American soil, and AADL staffers lead a discussion of **James Baldwin’s** 1963 bestseller *The Fire Next Time*, an impassioned plea to Americans to address the terrible legacy of racism. 6–7 p.m., for online meeting URL see



AADL.org/Node/572969 the day of the event. Free. 327-4200.

**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap tips. 6-8 p.m., for in-person or online location preregister at MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-StitchNBitch. \$2 monthly dues. 945-3035.

**\*Death Café: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** Interfaith Center Minister Annie Kopko leads a frank conversation about death. 6:30-8 p.m., for online meeting location see InterfaithSpirit.org. Free, but donations appreciated. 327-0270.

**\*Voices in Harmony.** Every Tues. All female singers invited to join the weekly online rehearsals of this local 40-member cappella barbershop harmony chorus. 7-9:30 p.m., for online meeting URL email Info@VoicesInHarmonyChorus.org. Free to visitors (\$26 monthly dues for those who join). 612-7580.

**\*Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Oct. 6 & 20. Club members show their projected digital images (Oct. 6) and digitized prints (Oct. 20) on various topics, including this month's assignment, "At Home or in the Yard." Also, on Oct. 6, club member Awni Hafedh presents "The Visit," a series of photos—mostly shot with an iPhone—taken around the world. 7:30 p.m., for online meeting URL email a2camClub@gmail.com. Free. 327-4781, AnnArborCameraClub.org

## 7 WEDNESDAY

**U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Election 2020.** Oct. 7, 12, & 26. Three out of 6 talks in a series concerning the upcoming general election. Oct. 7: Michigan secretary of state Jocelyn Benson on "Safe, Secure, and Accessible Elections for All." Oct. 12: Panel discussion with Bridge Magazine capitol reporter Riley Beggin and Politico political correspondent Tim Alberta on "Michigan and Other Battleground States." Detroit-based Pulitzer prize-winning journalist Stephen Henderson moderates. Oct. 26: U-M politics and journalism lecturer Robert Yoon on "A Survivor's Guide to Elections 2020." 10-11:30 a.m., for online meeting URL preregister at OLLI-umich.org. \$35 per lecture (for 6-lecture series, \$60); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$35 for 6-lecture series. \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

**\*Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** Every Wed. & Sat. Local chime master Heather O'Neal plays tunes TBA on this 17-bell chime. Noon-12:30 p.m. (Wed.) & 10:30-11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369-3107.

**\*"Virtual Discover Series: Women's History in the Archives": U-M Clements Library.** Clements curators TBA discuss women's influence as librarians, curators, and collectors. 4 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at myumi.ch/wlnQw. Free. 649-3370.

**\*"Policy Talks": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Oct. 7, 12, 15, 20, & 21. A series of talks by U-M faculty and visiting scholars. Participants encouraged to join the conversation by using #policytalks. Oct. 7 (4-5 p.m.): Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget president Maya MacGuineas and Lawrence Summers, National Economic Council director under Obama, on "Is the Federal Deficit Unsustainable?" Oct. 12 (11:30-12:30 p.m.): Two senior political reporters, Vox's Jane Coaston and The Guardian's Daniel Strauss, discuss what it's like to cover the presidential 2020 campaign trail. U-M Ford School associate dean Paula Lantz and U-M health policy professor James Hudak moderate. Oct. 15 (4-5 p.m.): International Rescue Committee president David Miliband discusses "International Politics, Humanitarian Needs, and the Global Significance of the U.S. Election." U-M Weiser Diplomacy Center director John Ciorciari moderates. Oct. 20 (10-11 a.m.): Panel discussion on "U.S.-China Relations During Covid-19: Finding a Path Forward." With U-M political science professor Mary Gallagher, U-M public policy professor Ann Lin, and Brookings Institute foreign policy fellow emeritus Ken Lieberthal, also a U-M political science professor emeritus who served as senior director for Asia on the National Se-

curity Council under President Clinton. U-M public policy faculty moderate. Oct. 21 (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.): Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics director Len Nichols on "U.S. Health Policy Directions: Two Roads Diverged in a Yellow Wood." Various times, for online meeting URL see FordSchool.umich.edu/events. Free. 764-3490.

**\*Wang Qingsong: U-M Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies.** Virtual tours of this renowned Beijing-based photographer's studio and his latest exhibition, *On the Field of Hope*, on display at Tang Contemporary (Beijing). His large-format photographs use staged sets and postmodern elements, mixing painting, theater, and cinematography to capture the tension of cultural shifts and global change. China Institute (NYC) programming vice president Dorinda Elliott moderates. 6-7 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at bit.ly/wangqingsong. Free. 764-6308.

**\*Kerrytown Crafters.** Every Wed. All crocheters, knitters, spinners, weavers, felters, sewers, and other crafters invited to work on their projects. Questions welcome, help available. 7 p.m. or so, for in-person or online location updates join Facebook.com/groups/KTCrafters. Free. 926-8863.

**\*Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** Every Wed. All male singers invited to join the weekly online rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL email info@HVharmonizers.org. Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). 796-7467.

**\*Kathleen Rooney: At Home with Literati.** This DePaul University (Chicago) English professor reads from *Cher Ami and Major Whitlesey*, her new WWI novel about an army officer and a messenger pigeon. Questions and commentary throughout by Colombia-born, Las Vegas-based novelist Juan Martinez. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see LiteratiBookstore.com. Free. 585-5567.

**\*Aaron Nathans and Michael G. Ronstadt: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase.** Alt-folk singer-songwriter duo of Philadelphia-based guitarist Nathans and Cincinnati cellist Ronstadt (Linda's nephew). Their 2020 release, *Shadow of the Cyclone*, reflects on current events with understanding and humor. 7 p.m., online at OnTheTracksChelsea.com. Free, but donations appreciated. 330-5226.

**Zoom Play Series: Theatre Nova.** Oct. 7-11. Fifteen juried virtual-themed very short plays—3 each night—written specifically to be performed live over Zoom. Tonight: Michelle Resnick directs 3 plays. *Werewolves of London* (Arkansas) is Marilyn Zerlak's drama about a husband who finds out his wife isn't as she seemed when he accidentally joins her Zoom meeting with her friends. *All in the Family Tree* is Laura Ratto's fantastical comedy about a granddaughter who assembles a family tree online. *Done is Done* is Hank Greenspan's fantasy about a deceased father who, showing up in a Zoom room 2 days after his burial, wants a second opinion on his post-mortem fate. 8-8:45 p.m., for livestream URL see Theatre-Nova.TicketLeap.com. Tickets \$5 per night. a2TheatreNova@gmail.com

**Poetry Salon: One Pause Poetry.** Every Wed. All invited to discuss poetry. Bring something you wrote or something you love; musical instruments & visual art welcome. Followed by collaborative writing games and exercises. 8-10 p.m., for location (meetings alternate between in-person and online) email wandersong@gmail.com. OnePausePoetry.org.

**\*Nic Gareiss: The Ark Family Room Series.** This renowned step dancer, a leading figure in traditional dance, performs dances that weave together improvisation and traditional clog and step dance footwork. 8 p.m., for livestream URL see TheArk.org/Shows-Events. Free. 761-1451.

**Suzanne Vega: The Ark.** This gifted avant-folk New York City singer-songwriter is best known for her 1987 pop hit "Luka" and the oft-sampled "Tom's Diner." Tonight's concert, a livestream from the iconic Blue Note Jazz Club in Greenwich Village, is in support of her brand-new career-spanning album, *An Evening of New York*

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*Songs and Stories*. 9 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$24 in advance at [bit.ly/suzannevegatheark](http://bit.ly/suzannevegatheark). 761-1451.

## 8 THURSDAY

★**"School Safety During Covid-19": First Presbyterian Church Lunch & Learn Series.** Wayne Regional Educational Service Agencies administrator Leonard Rezmierski discusses the dilemmas, challenges, and successes of keeping schools safe. Noon-1 p.m., for online meeting URL see [FirstPresbyterian.org](http://FirstPresbyterian.org). Free. 662-4466.

★**"Unsung Heroes: Everyday Women and Politics": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.** U-M Clements Library manuscripts curator Jayne Ptolemy discusses how women have historically engaged in politics in their everyday lives. 1-2:30 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**Louis Nagel: Kerrytown Concert House.** Livestream performance by popular local pianist Nagel, a retired U-M music professor. Program TBA. 5:30 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com). Free, but donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**Album Discussion: Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to discuss Solange's 2016 pop R&B album *A Seat at the Table*. Pitchfork critic Julianne Escobedo Shepherd calls it a "document of historical significance, not just for its formidable musical achievements but for the way it encapsulates black culture and social history with such richness, generosity, and truth." 6-7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [AADL.org/Node/572968](http://AADL.org/Node/572968) on the day of the event. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Singing for Comfort": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to join a sing-along of soothing songs that are easy to learn. No experience necessary. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [InterfaithSpirit.org](http://InterfaithSpirit.org). Free, but donations appreciated. 327-0270.

★**Maggie Smith: At Home with Literati.** This Ohio-based poet reads from *Keep Moving*, her new book of inspirational quotes and essays about life's new beginnings and the transformations we undergo. Questions and commentary throughout by U-M writing professor Molly Spencer. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). Free. 585-5567.

★**"Inspired By ...": Neighborhood Theatre Group.** See 1 Thursday. Tonight: Kristin Anne Danko directs *Last Train*, Brian Cox's existential drama based on The Monkees' "Last Train to Clarksville." An unsatisfied middle-aged woman meets a younger woman who reminds her much of herself, but with all her dreams still ahead of her. 7 p.m.

**Zoom Play Series: Theatre Nova.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: Shelby Seeley directs 3 plays. *Death to the Zombies* is Laurie Tanner's drama about a theater company grappling with their relationships behind the scenes and current events. Catherine Zudak's *The Big Day* is a drama about a series of unexpected events at a virtual bachelorette party. Stephanie Buckley's *Graven Images* is a horror story about an online class that steals a bit of each of its students' souls, forcing them to spend eternity together on Zoom. 8-8:45 p.m.

★**Judith Banker: The Ark Family Room Series.** A Michigan songwriter known for frequent appearances with folk stalwart Jay Stielstra, Banker writes songs that explore love, heartbreak, and renewal. Her 3rd album *Buffalo Motel*, released this year, features blues-rock instrumentation and driving percussion. 8 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

★**Kevin Morby: The Ark.** See 1 Thursday. 9 p.m.

## 9 FRIDAY

★**"Euchre Change a Life!"** Five-game online euchre tournament. Sign up with a partner, or get paired with one by the organizers. Prizes. Proceeds benefit Haitian children. 6:30-9 p.m., for

meeting URL preregister by Sept. 16 at [Facebook.com/EuchreChangeALife](http://Facebook.com/EuchreChangeALife). \$10 donation per player. [EuchreChangeALife@gmail.com](mailto:EuchreChangeALife@gmail.com)

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** Livestream readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poetry by Julia McDaniel and fiction by Drew Nelles. 7 p.m., online at [tinyurl.com/WebsterSeries](http://tinyurl.com/WebsterSeries). Free. 764-6330.

**Zoom Play Series: Theatre Nova.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: Diane Hill directs 3 plays. *Meet Cute Medium* is Donna Warfield's sci-fi drama about online speed dating with a supernatural twist. Cleavon Smith's lighthearted drama *A Hero of Our Time* is about 2 young inner city activists preparing to speak at a rally the next day. And Rachel Keown Burke's comedy *Book'd* is the story of an afternoon virtual wine-and-cheese book discussion that leaves its participants ill-prepared for the rest of their day. 8-8:45 p.m.

★**"Family Night: Stargazing": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** All invited to bring a blanket and stargaze. WCPARC naturalists on hand to point out various constellations and astronomical objects. Small fire pit & s'mores. Social distancing enforced. 8 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. \$5 per group of 4; preregistration required at [ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org](http://ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org).

★**Virtual Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society.** All invited to watch short astronomy presentations by club members and learn about the planets, the moon, the constellations, colorful binary star systems, and other visible astronomical objects. 9-11 p.m., for meeting URL see [umichSAS.com](http://umichSAS.com). Free.

## 10 SATURDAY

★**"You Can Dance—Outside!": University Musical Society.** All invited to learn the basics of tap dance with Creative Expressions Dance Studio (Flint) cofounder Bruce Bradley. 10:30 a.m. (check-in begins at 10 a.m.), Wheeler Park, 200 Depot St. Free, but preregistration required (limited capacity) at [UMS.org/Education/Community-Program](http://UMS.org/Education/Community-Program). 668-8463.

★**Know Obstacles: Oz's Music Environment.** All invited to play instruments, sing songs, and tell jokes with members of this band for kids and adults with special needs. Spectators welcome. 10:30 a.m., for online meeting URL see [bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic](http://bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic) (meeting ID 933 1925 5392; password 362147). Free. 662-8283.

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Stewardship Saturday": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** All invited to help remove invasive shrubs. Be prepared for hiking and off-trail work; bring a mask and water. 1-4 p.m., Northfield Woods Preserve, 150 E. Northfield Church Rd. Free, preregistration required by emailing [carlislec@washtenaw.org](mailto:carlislec@washtenaw.org). [Washtenaw.org/Parks](http://Washtenaw.org/Parks)

★**"29th Annual StoryFest": Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** This online storytelling program, formerly known as "Tellabration," features area storytellers performing for adults and youth age 14 & older. Program: Beverly Black's personal camping story "Lost," Mike Cox's imaginative tall tale "How I Got Big Feet," David Keren's suspenseful personal story "Not Bait," Lorella Otis's humorous personal tale "Leaf Blower," Tom Isaacs's Irish folk tale "Irish Tale," Rich Swanson's childhood remembrance "Fido the Fish," and Judy Sima's folk tale "Scheherezade." Emcee is Lansing storyteller Jennifer Otto, who's known for her original whimsical tales. All-ages StoryFest program on Oct. 11 (see listing in Kids). 7 p.m., for livestream URL preregister at [AnnArborStorytelling.org](http://AnnArborStorytelling.org). Free, but donations welcome.

**Paul Vornhagen and Aron Kaufman: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704.** Local veterans Vornhagen, a saxophone, flute, & congas multi-instrumentalist, and Kaufman, a composer-percussionist, play original compositions and improvised beats inspired by South American, Caribbean, African, and other world rhythms. 8-10 p.m., online at [InterfaithSpirit.org](http://InterfaithSpirit.org). Tickets \$8. 327-0270.

# classical



KIDUCK KIM

## Takács Quartet

### Echoes and premonitions

Like the field mouse whose nest was accidentally destroyed by Scottish farmer and poet Robert Burns, the University Musical Society's richly diverse calendar of music, theater, and dance has been plowed under—by a virus. Our best-laid plans have gone awry, as concerts canceled by the Covid-19 pandemic find their way into cyberspace, where UMS posts versions of performances in digital formats (see Inside Ann Arbor, p. 11).

The Takács Quartet, originally scheduled to perform at Rackham Auditorium, is sheltering in residence at the University of Colorado Boulder, recording a recital for their devoted Michigan fans to enjoy online for free. While we're sure to miss the lush Art Deco splendor of Rackham, there's something to be said for cozying up at home to make the most of a rare opportunity to attend a chamber music recital in cardigan, flannel, and slippers. The program, combining seven movements from string quartets by five different composers, will deliver around fifty minutes of music—enough to fill a vinyl record album.

History is now—right now. Every music reflects the reality of its day while carrying echoes of what came before, mingled with prescient inklings of what's to come. Your brain is a highly evolved receptor, able to amble at ease through time-space when not distracted or overstimulated. This is how the

magic works: each of the pieces that make up the Takács Quartet's program is "about" whoever hears it in 2020. An allegro by Mozart from 1783 which opens the recital is thoughtful and bittersweet, as are the andante from Florence Price's String Quartet No. 2 of 1935, and the prelude from Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Five Fantasy Pieces, composed in 1896. Price was African American; Coleridge-Taylor's parents were from Britain and Sierra Leone. Both composers lived and worked within a racially encoded caste system. Racism interfered with their careers and has long delayed their posthumous recognition.

The Takács online recital will also transport you to the rarefied dreamspace of Claude Debussy's only string quartet, completed in 1893. Here sound waves are mysteriously transformed into fragrant wafts of memory and premonition. Immersed in the dialogue between cello, viola, and violins, you can hear the sounds of tradition being extended and transcended. A study in turbulence conjured in 1909 by Béla Bartók at the close of his first quartet embodies the spirit of unconstrained artistic freedom that began to manifest at the dawn of the twentieth century and shows no signs of ever ceasing to flourish.

*Safely ensconced at their home base in Boulder, the Takács Quartet is prerecording this recital especially for UMS audiences. The program will be available on demand for anyone to view free of charge, October 21-24 at [ums.org](http://ums.org).*

—arwulf arwulf

**Zoom Play Series: Theatre Nova.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: Carla Milarch directs 3 plays. Isabella Waldron's drama *Matching* is about a mother and daughter catching up and trying to help out with life over Zoom. Cary Gitter's comedy *Go, Seniors* is about 2 high school seniors lamenting the loss of their last year together to the new coronavirus. Rachel Keown Burke's drama *Dutch Baby* is about former roommates reconnecting in a sardonic yet sincere way. 8-8:45 p.m.

## 11 SUNDAY

★**"The Judeo-Christian-Muslim and Scientific Understandings of Leadership": First United Methodist Church Conversations about Science and Religion.** Virginia-based First United Methodist minister Larry Buxton and U-M radiology professor emeritus Paul Carson lead a discussion on how modern brain sciences can inform day-to-day professional life. 11-12:15 p.m., for online meeting URL email [debbie@fumc-a2.org](mailto:debbie@fumc-a2.org) or call 662-4536. Free.

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"History of Quakerism: Issues of Social Justice and Injustice": Ann Arbor Friends Meeting.** Discussion of the long Quaker history of social activism, including its shortcomings. Speaker TBA. 12:45 p.m., for online meeting URL see [AnnArborFriends.org](http://AnnArborFriends.org). Free.

★**Sharon Mills Tours: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** Oct. 11 & 18. All invited to tour this park on the River Raisin that features an operational hydroelectric generator, a beautiful multicolored stone house, a wooden mill, and a former winery, plus spots for fishing, canoeing, and picnicking. Docents on hand to answer questions and demonstrate the generator. 1-5 p.m., Sharon Mills Park, 5701 Sharon Hollow Rd., Manchester. Free. 971-6337.

★**Virtual CROP Hunger Walk.** All invited to walk any distance in any location and share photos to CROP Hunger Walk's Facebook page. Local organizations benefiting from this year's proceeds are Hope Clinic, Peace Neighborhood Center, Avalon Housing, LOVE Thy



Neighbor at First United Methodist Church Ann Arbor, Community Action Network (CAN) of Ann Arbor, Packard Health and Growing Hope. 2 p.m., choose your own location. Free, but participants are encouraged to raise donations. Preregistration required at [CropHungerWalk.org](http://CropHungerWalk.org).

★**Kerrytown Concert House Live at the 415 Series.** Performer TBA. Today's program is a collaboration with the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County. 4:15 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415). Free; donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**"A Harvest of Hope at Gordon Hall": Dexter Area Historical Society.** Pickup curbside dinner from Fillmore Bar and Grill to fundraise for the operation and ongoing renovation of Gordon Hall, the 19th-century mansion built by Dexter founder Judge Samuel Dexter. For menu options, see [DexterHistory.org](http://DexterHistory.org). 5-7 p.m., Fillmore Bar and Grill, 7954 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. \$75 per person, preregistration required at [DexterHistory.org](http://DexterHistory.org) or by phone. 395-4106.

**Richard Thompson: The Ark.** A former lead guitarist with the legendary English folk-rock group Fairport Convention, Thompson has long since established himself as one of England's most compelling and original singer-songwriters. He's also known for his biting, incisive guitar solos. 6 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$20 & up in advance only at [bit.ly/richardthompsonark](http://bit.ly/richardthompsonark). 761-1451.

★**Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Virtual Open Mic.** Musicians of all ability levels and ages invited to sing and play anything from classic rock, Motown, and blues to bluegrass, folk, and country. All acoustic instruments (strings, horns, and woodwinds) welcome. Led by veteran local musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. 7-9 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam](http://MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam). Free. 973-7791.

★**Dave Boutette & Kristi Lynn Davis: The Ark Family Room Series.** Husband-and-wife duo of veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist Boutette, known for genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life, and Davis, a singer, dancer, and former Radio City Rockette. 7 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

**Zoom Play Series: Theatre Nova.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: Terie Spencer directs *Working Remotely*, Cary Gitter's lighthearted comedy about a manager who makes a phone call intending to fire an employee but winds up turning the conversation on its head. Rachel Keown Burke directs *River's Message*, Conrad A. Panganiban's supernatural drama about a college student trying to communicate with her deceased mom through a new Facebook app. Joe Bailey directs *We're Here Now*, Jeffrey Lo's comedy about a long-distance young couple reinventing relationship milestones during the pandemic. 8-8:45 p.m.

## 12 MONDAY (COLUMBUS DAY AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY)

★**Lee van der Voo: At Home with Literati.** U-M School for Environment and Sustainability. This award-winning investigative and environmental journalist reads from *As the World Burns*, her brand-new book about the still-evolving legal case of 21 young Americans suing the federal government over climate change. Questions and commentary throughout by U-M environmental science professor Rebecca Hardin. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). Free. 585-5567.

★**"The Defense Rests: Lessons Learned Through Illness and Grief": First Presbyterian Church.** Charlotte, N.C.-based writer Kathryn P. Cosper discusses her new memoir about the joy and frustration of trying to care for her chronically ill husband. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL email [mRogers@FirstPresbyterian.org](mailto:mRogers@FirstPresbyterian.org). Free. 662-4466.

★**Virtual Scandinavian Music Jam.** Oct. 12 & 26. Bruce Sagan and Brad Battey lead an acoustic jam session devoted to traditional mu-

sic from Sweden and Norway. All instruments welcome, no experience playing Scandinavian music necessary. 7:30-9:30 p.m., for online meeting URL email [bsagan@msu.edu](mailto:bsagan@msu.edu). Free. (908) 721-2599.

## 13 TUESDAY

★**"Efforts by the Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.** Talk by U-M anesthesiology, medicine, and psychiatry professor Daniel Clauw. Q&A. 10-11:30 a.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 per lecture (for 10-lecture series, \$300); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$55 for 10-lecture series. \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**"Bluegrass Jam Circle": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Oct. 13 & 27. All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome, too. 5-7 p.m. or so, for outdoor location and other updates see [a2bluGrass.com](http://a2bluGrass.com). Price TBA.

★**Playwriting Club: The Brass Tacks Ensemble.** This local troupe leads writing exercises and discussions centered around character development & conflict, narrative arcs, and more. 6:30-8:30 p.m., for online meeting URL email [TheBrassTacksEnsemble@gmail.com](mailto:TheBrassTacksEnsemble@gmail.com). Free. [btensemble.org](http://btensemble.org), [Facebook.com/TheBrassTacksEnsemble](http://Facebook.com/TheBrassTacksEnsemble)

★**"Virtual Pub Sing": Ann Arbor Morris.** Local Morris dancers lead an evening of rousing choruses, drinking songs, sea shanties, and English folk songs. No set program; all participants are welcome to lead a song with a singable, reasonably easy-to-learn chorus. This is a participatory event. 7-10 p.m., for online meeting URL email [bsagan@msu.edu](mailto:bsagan@msu.edu). Free.

★**Damn Tall Buildings: The Ark Family Room Series.** Gritty bluegrass by this quartet of former Berklee College of Music (Boston) music students who got their start as buskers. The *Boston Globe* calls them "the Carter Family for the millennial generation." 8 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

## 14 WEDNESDAY

★**"Critical Conversations": U-M English Language and Literature Department.** U-M faculty panelists discuss how their research relates to the theme "Politics." With American culture lecturer Sigrid Anderson, English professor Tung-Hui Hu, information professor Silvia Lindtner, and another TBA. 12:30-2 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [bit.ly/criticalconversations1](http://bit.ly/criticalconversations1). Free. 764-6330

★**"Today's Racial Divides: How Has Education Failed Us?": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.** All invited to discuss personal educational experiences of racial issues and ways to bridge educational divides. Led by Federal Correctional Institution (Milan) high school teacher Judy Wenzel. 1-3 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to read and discuss poetry or short fiction. Have your original work ready to share, if you wish. 7 p.m. (sign-up for new participants begins at 6:45 p.m.), for online meeting URL email [cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com](mailto:cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com). Free.

★**Jihyun Yun & Megan Cummins: At Home with Literati.** Ann Arbor-based Korean-American poet Yun reads from *Some Are Always Hungry*, her new collection that chronicles a family's wartime survival and immigration through the lens of food (or lack thereof). Also, writer Cummins reads from *If The Body Allows It*, her brand-new novel about a New Jersey woman suffering from a chronic autoimmune illness who meets and falls in love with a man whose grief mirrors her own. Q&A. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). Free. 585-5567.

★**"The Road to Home at Home": SOS Community Services Fundraiser.** Livestream jazz, blues, and R&B by the Southfield-based



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# VISIONS 2020

## Technology & Services for the Blind, Visually Impaired & Physically Disabled

**WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 7 • ON AADL.TV**

A Virtual Vendor Fair featuring a variety of videos demonstrating the latest products and services for the blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled.

### VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS


Premiering at 9AM

- Harnessing Adversity with Ingrid Ricks
- Independent Living for Blind Seniors
- Technology Talk

**LIVE Q&A WITH INGRID RICKS 1PM**

Ingrid Ricks answers questions about her talk, *Harnessing Adversity*, and about her bestselling memoir, *Hippie Boy*.

Ingrid Ricks presents *Hippie Boy* in an online author event Oct. 6 at 7pm on AADL.TV

 Visit [aadl.org/visions](http://aadl.org/visions) for more information.



**Skye Island Band.** Also, poetry readings by local youth. Also, an online auction of artisan bowls. Preceded at 5 p.m. by drive-through dinner pick-up at Sesi Lincoln (3990 Jackson Rd.). 6:30–8 p.m., online at [soscs.org](http://soscs.org). Tickets \$150 & up, includes dinner, in advance only. 485–8730.

## 15 THURSDAY

★**Téa Obrecht: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** This Serbian-American novelist reads from *Inland*, her 2019 novel about a frontierswoman and a Muslim immigrant living in the Arizona territory in 1893. Chanelle Benz of the *The New York Times Book Review* says “Obrecht’s simple but rich prose captures and luxuriates in the West’s beauty and sudden menace.” Q&A. 5 p.m., online at [tinyurl.com/ZellWriters](http://tinyurl.com/ZellWriters). Free. 764–6330.

★**Art Talks: Jewish Community Center.** Oct. 15, 22, & 29. Illustrated talks by WSU art history instructor Wendy Evans. Oct. 15: “How to Look at Art with the Eyes of an Artist.” Oct. 22: “Musée du Louvre, Paris.” See some of the world’s most famous paintings and sculptures sans crowds. Oct. 29: “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Women in Art.” Learn about how male artists have historically rendered the female form and explore the differences in how women artists represent themselves. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL email Noemi Herzig at [NoemiHerzig@jccAnnArbor.com](mailto:NoemiHerzig@jccAnnArbor.com) or see [jccAnnArbor.org](http://jccAnnArbor.org). Free. 971–0990.

★**“Inspired By ...”: Neighborhood Theatre Group.** See 1 Thursday. Tonight: Maegan Murphy directs *Send in the Clowns*, Chuck Goddeeris’s comedy based on the Stephen Sondheim song about 3 clowns who interview for a position for which only one seems qualified. 7 p.m.

★**Crystal Bowersox: The Ark Family Room Series.** Soulful country-flavored folk-rock by this Nashville-based singer-songwriter from northern Ohio who was the *American Idol* runner-up in 2010. She has since released 3 CDs and has a new single, “Courage to be Kind,” that addresses racism in America. 8 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761–1451.

★**Kevin Morby: The Ark.** See 1 Thursday. 9 p.m.

## 16 FRIDAY

★**Remodelers Home Tour: Builders and Remodelers Association of Greater Ann Arbor.** Oct. 16–18. Guided tours of several newly remodeled local homes, online and in-person. Limited capacity for in-person viewings; social distancing enforced, masks required. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., various locations and online at [BragAnnArbor.net](http://BragAnnArbor.net). Free. 996–0100.

★**“Clements Bookworm Online Event”: U-M Clements Library.** Clements manuscripts curator Cheney Schopieray hosts a livestream conversation about Civil War soldier and war correspondent William H. Busbey, later a newspaper editor in Toledo and Chicago. With historian Linda Zimmermann, author of *Civil War Memories: The Collected Writings of Sgt. William H. Busbey (1839–1906)*, and Busbey descendant Ted Young. 10 a.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [myumi.ch/gjgzR](http://myumi.ch/gjgzR). Free. 649–3370.

★**“The Peace Generator”: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to meditate, chant, and set intentions. 7 p.m., for online meeting URL see [InterfaithSpirit.org](http://InterfaithSpirit.org). Free, but donations appreciated. 327–0270.

★**“#Matter” & “Black Flag”: EMU Theatre Department.** Oct. 16–18. Virtual productions of 2 semi-staged dramas by Idris Goodwin, an award-winning Colorado-based playwright known for his plays designed to spark conversation about race in America. EMU grad student Tayler Jones directs *#Matter*, a story about 2 former high school students reconnecting over their divergent views on life and race. Fraser High School drama teacher & EMU grad Randy Stewart directs *Black Flag*, a story about college freshman roommates attempting to navigate their obvious cultural differences.

**Ann Arbor Film Festival.** FREE. Online at [aaFilmFest.org](http://aaFilmFest.org).

**Ends Oct. 10: “Future Language: The Dimensions of Von LMO”** (Lori Felker, 2018). Documentary portrait of this postpunk artist, a self-proclaimed alien hybrid.

**Oct. 7–Nov. 3: “What We Left Unfinished”** (Mariam Ghani, 2019). Newly restored footage from lost fiction films shot during Afghanistan’s Communist era (1978–1991).

**“Virtual Movie Palace”: Michigan Theater.** \$12 per film (except as noted). Available all month online at [MichTheater.org/Screenings](http://MichTheater.org/Screenings) for 2–10 days after you start watching. [BoxOffice@MichTheater.org](mailto:BoxOffice@MichTheater.org)

**“Midnight Traveler”** (Hassan Fazili, 2019). Documentary shot on mobile phones

7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) and 2 p.m. (Sun.). For online URL, see [emich.edu/cmta/productions/current-season](http://emich.edu/cmta/productions/current-season). Tickets prices TBA at [EMUtix.com](http://EMUtix.com). 487–1220.

**Davina and the Vagabonds: The Ark.** Fronted by the powerful vocals of singer-songwriter Davina Sowers, this Minneapolis Americana quintet plays a brand of high-energy horn-based blues that incorporates New Orleans charm, Memphis soul swagger, tender gospel passages, and dark theatrical moments that evoke Kurt Weill. They have a new album, *Sugar Drops*. 8 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Ticket prices TBA. 761–1451.

## 17 SATURDAY

★**“Christmas in October”: Northside Community Church.** Virtual holiday bazaar with handmade crafts and vendors, including Thistle Blossom Herbals, Sipology, Thirtyone, Rodan & Fields, Usborne Books, Perfectly Posh, and more. 10 a.m.–3 p.m., for livestream see [bit.ly/facebookchristmasinOctober](http://bit.ly/facebookchristmasinOctober). Free. 662–6351.

★**“Apple Showcase”: MacTechnics Video Conference.** Apple systems trainer Chris Anderson discusses the latest Apple products, including AirPods headphones, AirTags tracking tags, new versions of the iPhone, iPad Pro, and Apple Watch, and more. Q&A. 11 a.m.–1 p.m., for meeting URL email [Contact@mactechnics.org](mailto:Contact@mactechnics.org). Free. [MacTechnics.org](http://MacTechnics.org)

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**“Changing Seasons Mindfulness Hike”: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Slow-paced, contemplative hike led by WCPARC naturalist Elle Bogle and Mindful City Ann Arbor cofounder Julie Woodward. Bring a water bottle and mask. 2 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, 4000 Scio Church Rd. Free, but preregistration required at [ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org](http://ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org).

★**Kayla Cieslak Senior Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU senior flute major Cieslak performs a program that includes J.S. Bach’s Partita in A minor, the acclaimed contemporary American composer-flutist Valerie Coleman’s *Danza de la Mariposa*, and works by two 20th-century French composers, Cécile Chaminade’s *Flute Concertino* and André Jolivet’s *Chant de Linos*. 2–3:30 p.m., for livestream URL see [emich.edu/flute](http://emich.edu/flute). Free. [Julie.Stone@emich.edu](mailto:Julie.Stone@emich.edu)

★**“The Music of Brahms”: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.** Online performance, pre-recorded at Kerrytown Concert House, of Brahms’ Horn Trio and Clarinet Trio, a work that prompted a friend of the composer to say, “it is as though the instruments are in love with each other.” 5:30 p.m., online at [a2so.com](http://a2so.com). Tickets \$50 in advance only at [a2so.com](http://a2so.com). 994–4801.

★**“#Matter” & “Black Flag”: EMU Theatre Department.** See 16 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**Carrie Newcomer: The Ark.** Acclaimed singer-songwriter and dynamic performer from northern Indiana whose songs explore every-

following Fazili and his family after they fled Afghanistan for Tajikistan when the Taliban targeted their art cafe. Persian, Turkish, Bulgarian; subtitles. \$10.

★**“Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin”** (Werner Herzog, 2020). Documentary following Herzog as he makes a pilgrimage inspired by his friend.

★**“Represent”** (Hillary Bachelder, 2020). Documentary about 3 women campaigning for political offices in the Midwest.

★**“Jimmy Carter: Rock & Roll President”** (Mary Wharton, 2020). Documentary highlighting Carter’s likability and open embrace of popular music. \$9.99.

★**“Meeting the Beatles in India”** (Paul Saltzman, 2020). Saltzman recounts the week in 1968 he spent with the Beatles

day life with a gritty realism and soft-spoken charm. *No Depression* calls her music “delicate yet strong, with a voice rich with warmth and deep with soul.” 8 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$20 (“family pass,” \$30) in advance only at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). 761–1451.

## 18 SUNDAY

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**“Tree Mythology”: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Elle Bogle leads a hike and discusses the historical and spiritual significance of certain trees to indigenous people. 2 p.m., Leonard Preserve. Free, but preregistration required by emailing [boglee@washtenaw.org](mailto:boglee@washtenaw.org). [Washtenaw.org/Parks](http://Washtenaw.org/Parks)

★**“#Matter” & “Black Flag”: EMU Theatre Department.** See 16 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**Garrison Starr: The Ark Family Room Series.** Nashville-based, Mississippi-bred alt-country singer-songwriter with a startlingly pure voice. Billboard calls her “a musical cousin to Sheryl Crow and the Indigo Girls [who] stands out with an appealing vulnerability that’s tinged with a sly quirkiness.” 7:30 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761–1451.

## 19 MONDAY

★**“Healing Politics: A Doctor’s Journey into the Heart of Our Political Epidemic”: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Olli Reads.** All invited to discuss 2018 Democratic gubernatorial candidate Abdul El-Sayed’s new book. Part memoir, part epidemiological study, *Healing Politics* examines underlying insecurities afflicting America. Led by U-M academic affairs assistant vice provost Dilip Das. 10 a.m.–noon, for online meeting URL see [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). Free. 998–9351.

★**“The Bee Lady Talks”: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.** Southeast Michigan-based amateur apiarist Victoria Dluzen McIntyre discusses how 50,000 bees can work together for a common good. 6–8 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

★**“Race, Gender, and Rights: Histories of the Practice of Democratic Citizenship”: U-M Clements Library.** Talk by Cornell University English professor Derrick Spies and Johns Hopkins University history professor Martha Jones. Moderator is Case Western Reserve University provost Ben Vinson. 7 p.m., for meeting URL preregister at [myumi.ch/1pv0A](http://myumi.ch/1pv0A). Free. 649–3370.

★**Rusty Frentner: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This Michigan artist discusses his nature- and wildlife-inspired oil paintings. 7 p.m., for meeting URL see [AnnArborWomenArtists.org](http://AnnArborWomenArtists.org). Free. [annarborwomenartists@gmail.com](mailto:annarborwomenartists@gmail.com)

★**Monthly Meeting: Embroiderers’ Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities and interests are invited to work on their own stitching projects and socialize. 7 p.m., for online meet-

## films

studying transcendental meditation with Maharishi Mahesh Yogi.

★**“Love and Busking”** (Bobby Choy, 2019). Drama about a melancholy amateur musician who sparks up a romance with a Korean dancer. \$12.

★**“Softie”** (Sam Soko, 2020). Documentary about provocative Kenyan photojournalist Boniface “Softie” Mwangi’s run for office against corrupt opponents.

★**“Space Dogs”** (Elsa Kremser & Levin Peter, 2020). Documentary about the Soviet street dog Laika who orbited the Earth in 1957.

★**“The Artist’s Wife”** (Tom Dolby, 2020). Drama about the wife of a renowned abstract artist diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease.

ing URL call 330–5724. Free to visitors (\$52 annual dues).

## 20 TUESDAY

★**“Lessons Learned from Flint and Implications for Reducing Health Disparities Beyond the Covid-19 Pandemic”: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute The Lasting Impact of Covid-19 Series.** Talk by MSU public health professor Debra Furr-Holden and Flint-based pediatrician Lawrence Reynolds. 10–11:30 a.m., online at [bit.ly/healthdisparities1](http://bit.ly/healthdisparities1). Free. 998–9351.

## 21 WEDNESDAY

★**“The 2020 General Election: Casting and Counting Ballots in Washtenaw County and Beyond”: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Afternoons with OLLI.** Talk by Washtenaw County Clerk elections director Ed Golembiewski. Q&A. 3:30–5 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

★**“Evenings with Aaron”: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to discuss their metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a “being of light” channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices, including Vipassana and Pure Awareness meditation. Q&A. 7–9 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [DeepSpring.org](http://DeepSpring.org). \$10–\$30 suggested donations. 477–5848, [DeepSpring9@gmail.com](mailto:DeepSpring9@gmail.com)

★**“A Virtual Nature Walk with Don Chalfant”: Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by this popular WAS speaker. 7:30 p.m., for online meeting URL see [WashtenawAudubon.org/Events](http://WashtenawAudubon.org/Events). Free.

★**“Election and Voting Security in the U.S.”: American Association of University Women.** Talk by U-M political science professor Walter Mebane. 7:30 p.m., for meeting URL see [AnnArbor-MI.aauw.net](http://AnnArbor-MI.aauw.net). Free. [Facebook.com/AAUWAnnArbor](http://Facebook.com/AAUWAnnArbor)

★**Takács Quartet: University Musical Society.** Oct. 21–24. See review, p. 40. Founded in Hungary in 1975, this world-renowned, Boulder-based ensemble—and UMS crowd favorite—is known for its warmth, eloquence, and discipline, and for the ease with which it masters demanding pieces. Violinists Edward Dusing and Harumi Rhodes, violist Geraldine Walther, and cellist Andrés Fejér are “four of the best string alchemists on the planet,” writes a *Chicago Tribune* reviewer. Tonight they perform Afro-British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor’s “Five Fantasiestücke,” renowned African American composer Florence Price’s String Quartet in A minor, Mozart’s String Quartet in D minor, and quartets by Bartók and Debussy. Anytime from 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 21 through Oct. 24, online at [ums.org/performance/takacs-quartet-ums-digital-presentation](http://ums.org/performance/takacs-quartet-ums-digital-presentation). Free. 764–2538.



## 22 THURSDAY

★**Takács Quartet: University Musical Society.** See 21 Wednesday. All day.

★**Jenny Zhang: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Reading by this poet and fiction writer, whose 2017 story collection *Sour Heart* centers on immigrants from China and Taiwan and examines the ways in which family and history influence people. *The New Yorker* writer Jia Tolentino calls it a "feminist bildungsroman [that] depicts a collective coming of age." Q&A. 5 p.m., online at [tinyurl.com/ZellWriters](http://tinyurl.com/ZellWriters). Free. 764-6330.

★**"Jazz Chats with Cool Cats": Kerrytown Concert House.** Local drummer Pete Siers and Detroit-area pianist Scott Gwinell discuss topics related to jazz and perform a program TBA. 5:30 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com). Free, but donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**"Inspired By ...": Neighborhood Theatre Group.** See 1 Thursday. Tonight: Craig VanKempen directs *The Perfect Game*, Hank Greenspan's drama based on the hymn "We Gather Together," about a dispute at a California sports bar that's been closed for months due to Covid-19 restrictions. 7 p.m.

★**"The Measure of Our Character: What We Do When No One's Watching": Xi Chapter & Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter of Delta Gamma/U-M Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.** Talk by bestselling local sports-writer John U. Bacon. 7 p.m., for meeting URL preregister at [tinyurl.com/xilectureship2020](http://tinyurl.com/xilectureship2020). Free. [xi.lectureship@gmail.com](mailto:xi.lectureship@gmail.com)

## 23 FRIDAY

★**Takács Quartet: University Musical Society.** See 21 Wednesday. All day.

★**"Animal Haunts": Leslie Science & Nature Center.** Oct. 23, 24, & 30. All encouraged to come in costume to hike on paved and wooded trails through LSN's recently reopened site and Black Pond woods, while solving clues in an educational family-friendly mystery. Social distancing enforced, masks required. 6:30-9:30 p.m., [LeslieScienceCenter.org](http://LeslieScienceCenter.org), 1831 Traver Rd. Price TBA, includes a kids take-home gift; preregistration required at [LeslieSNC.org](http://LeslieSNC.org).

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** Livestream readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poetry by Serena Dobson and fiction by Maya Dobjensky. 7 p.m., online at [tinyurl.com/WebsterSeries](http://tinyurl.com/WebsterSeries). Free. 764-6330.

★**Purple Gums: Edgefest 24.** Annual music festival, listed by *DownBeat* as one of the world's top 50 jazz/avant music festivals. This year's online program features monthly concerts through March 2021. Tonight, avant-garde jazz improvisations by Purple Gums, the brass ensemble of cornetist Bobby Bradford, tenor saxophonist Francis Wong, and tuba player & vocalist William Roper. *MetalJazz.com* calls their new album, *Back Where We Came From*, "funky, angry, and friendly." 7:30 p.m., for

livestream URL, see [KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Edgefest](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Edgefest). Free. 769-2999.

★**"Do Not Disturb(ed)": The Penny Seats Theatre Company.** Popular local playwright Joseph Zettelmair directs a virtual reading of his new horror drama set in a run-down midwest motel. 8 p.m., online at [PennySeats.org](http://PennySeats.org). Tickets \$5. 926-5346, [ThePennySeats@gmail.com](mailto:ThePennySeats@gmail.com)

★**Ordinary Elephant: The Ark.** Husband-and-wife Americana roots-music singer-songwriter duo that cites Gillian Welch, Guy Clark, and Anaïs Mitchell as influences. "Hand-in-glove harmonies surprise the listener with focused intensity and musical mastery," says Mary Gauthier. *PopMatters* critic Ed Whitelock calls their 2019 album *Honest* "one of the best folk duo records I have heard in years." 8 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Ticket prices TBA. 761-1451.

## 24 SATURDAY

★**Takács Quartet: University Musical Society.** See 21 Wednesday. All day.

★**Huron Gun Collectors.** Oct. 24 & 25. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. Age 17 & under must be accompanied by an adult. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), [Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds](http://WashtenawFarmCouncilGrounds.org), 505 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$5 (kids age 12 & under, free). (517) 546-4710.

★**"You Can Dance—Outside!": University Musical Society.** All invited to learn the basics of Detroit jit (a street-dance style) with Detroit-based dancer Halem "Stringz" Rasul. 10:30 a.m. (check-in begins at 10 a.m.), Wheeler Park, 200 Depot St. Free, but preregistration required (limited capacity) at [UMS.org/Education/Community-Programs](http://UMS.org/Education/Community-Programs). 668-8463.

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Living Room Live!": Ann Arbor Storytellers' Guild.** A night of scary stories to send chills to your bones, featuring folk, contemporary, and original tales. Program: member Jane Fink tells Shirley Jackson's *The Summer People*, about a couple who's met with mysterious resistance when they stay at their cottage past Labor Day; member and tonight's emcee Steve Daut tells Bram Stoker's classic ghost story *The Judge's House*. Also, Brighton-based Jeff Doyle, Michigan-based Yvonne Healey, Columbus-based Lyn Ford, and other tellers TBA. Suitable for all ages. 7 p.m., for livestream URL preregister at [TinyURL.com/LRLive2U](http://TinyURL.com/LRLive2U). Pay what you can (\$10 or more suggested donation). [Mail@SteveDaut.com](mailto:Mail@SteveDaut.com)

★**"House Party": Washtenaw Literacy.** Virtual fundraising event featuring a talk by local sportswriter John U. Bacon, commentary from Washtenaw Literacy tutors and clients, a live cocktail-making demo, and more. 7 p.m., for meeting URL preregister at [gala2020.WashtenawLiteracy.org](http://gala2020.WashtenawLiteracy.org). Tickets \$35-\$500 in advance only at [WashtenawLiteracy.org](http://WashtenawLiteracy.org). 337-3338.

★**Artemisia: Women of Temple Beth Emeth Virtual Fundraiser.** This all-female Chicago trio, praised by *Vocal Arts Chicago* for "sin-

## galleries

### New exhibits this month:

★**Argus Museum, 525 W. William (2nd floor).** *How Far Have We Come?* (Oct. 8-Dec. 12). Juried exhibit of photos on the progress (or lack thereof) of women and others facing disenfranchisement a century after ratification of the 19th Amendment. Reception Oct. 8, 6-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 769-0770. Entries online at [cameramall.com/pages/how-far-have-we-come-photo-contest](http://cameramall.com/pages/how-far-have-we-come-photo-contest).

★**22 North, 22 North Huron St., Ypsilanti.** *For Which It Stands* (Oct. 2-Nov. 14). Works in various media by 12 artists, all examining the symbolism of the American flag during times of civil unrest. Call to schedule in-person viewing. 454-6519.

★**Ann Arbor Women Artists, AnnArborWomenArtists.org.** *Racial Dialogues Through Arts* (opens Oct. 23). Online exhibit of art in various media, all related to themes of race & racial identity.

★**WSG Gallery, WSG-Art.com.** *Recent Work by Francesc Burgos* (Sept. 29-Nov. 7). Online exhibit of mixed-media sculptures by this Barcelona-born, Ann Arbor-based ceramist. 117 W. Liberty St.: *Selected Works by Members* (Oct. 6-31). Work in various media by WSG members.

★**Eric Silva & Phil Wilson, Eat More Tea, 211 E. Ann.** *Jewelry & Pottery Pop-Up* (Oct. 16-18). Handmade work by L.A.-based jewelry designer Silva & Traverse City potter Wilson.

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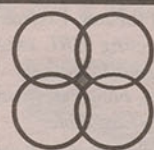


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cerity, wit, and mind-blowing technique," performs a show that explores gender in music and culture, with songs from around the world and humorous accompanying narrative. Livestream. Followed by a Q&A. 7:30 p.m., online at [wtbe.org](http://wtbe.org). Tickets \$18 in advance only at [TempleBethEmeth.org/Women-Of-TBE](http://TempleBethEmeth.org/Women-Of-TBE).

**Christine Lavin: The Ark.** This veteran New York City artist is known for the sharp wit and comically warped perspectives of songs like "Sensitive New Age Guys" and "Tom Cruise Scares Me." She's also known for her bittersweet miniatures of lost romance, and she's a tastily tuneful composer, a superb guitarist, and a playfully unpredictable performer whose shows are always sprinkled with a healthy dose of between-songs humor and spiky commentary. She has a new album, *On My Way to ... Hooter-ville*. 8 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$15 in advance only at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). 761-1451.

## 25 SUNDAY

★**Rasa Festival: Akshara.** See 1 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Scotch-Irish Research": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Royal Oak professional genealogist Derek Blount discusses the lineage of Scotch-Irish and where people of this descent can be found today. Followed at 3:15 p.m. by "Genealogy Webinars and Podcasts," a talk by club members Omer Jean Winborn and Sharon Brevoort. 1:30 p.m., for online meeting URL email [info@WashtenawGenealogy.org](mailto:info@WashtenawGenealogy.org). Free. 483-2799.

**Dougie MacLean: The Ark.** A former member of the Tannahill Weavers and Silly Wizard who was dubbed "Scotland's greatest living songwriter" by *Celtic World*, MacLean is known for an extravagant lyricism that draws on Celtic traditions from both sides of the Atlantic. His best-known song, "Caledonia," has been called Scotland's second national anthem. He's a virtuoso on guitar, bouzouki, Scottish fiddle, and Australian didgeridoo, and his repertoire also includes traditional Scottish songs. 2 p.m., online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Tickets \$15 in advance only at [bit.ly/dougiemaclean](http://bit.ly/dougiemaclean). 761-1451.

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [AnnArborStorytelling.org](http://AnnArborStorytelling.org). Free.

★**Paul Keller: Kerrytown Concert House Live at the 415 Series.** Bassist Keller, vibraphonist Cary Kocher, and pianist Adam Mosley perform the music of the versatile 20th-century British jazz composer-pianist George Shearing. 4:15 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com/Live-At-The-415). Free; donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** Oct. 25-Nov. 4. Already internationally acclaimed at the age of 21, this British cellist was named the 2016 BBC Young Musician of the Year and has since performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's royal wedding in 2018. His recent album, *Elgar*, is an exploration of the musical landscape in pre- and post-war Europe anchored by Elgar's Cello Concerto. He is joined by his older sister, pianist **Isata Kanneh-Mason**, in Beethoven's Cello Sonata in C Major and Rachmaninoff's Cello Sonata in G Minor. Also, Oct. 25 only, the performance is followed by a **livestream chat** with both artists. 7:30 p.m. Available online anytime from 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 25 through Nov. 4, online at [ums.org/performance/takacs-quartet-ums-digital-presentation](http://ums.org/performance/takacs-quartet-ums-digital-presentation). Free. 764-2538.

## 26 MONDAY

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

## 27 TUESDAY

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

"The Use of Medieval Mythology in Current Political Culture and Propaganda": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. EMU English professor Martin Shichtman discusses how symbols used in the medieval

period resurfaced in the Nazi era and in the contemporary political environment to serve as propaganda for various movements. 10-11:30 a.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [OLLI-umich.org](http://OLLI-umich.org). \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**Play Reading Club: The Brass Tacks Ensemble.** All invited to join members of this local ensemble to read a part in H.G. Wells' sci-fi classic *The War of the Worlds*. Followed by a discussion on the Brass Tackian principles of clarity, universality, entertainment, and the essential elements of theater. Listeners welcome. 6:30 p.m., for meeting URL email [TheBrassTacksEnsemble@gmail.com](mailto:TheBrassTacksEnsemble@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. the day of the event. Free. [btensemble.org](http://btensemble.org), [Facebook.com/TheBrassTacksEnsemble](http://Facebook.com/TheBrassTacksEnsemble)

★**Helena Mesa: Skazat! Poetry Series.** Reading by this local poet, an Albion College English professor whose debut collection, *Horse Dance Underwater*, suspends its thought between lyric and narrative, humans and animals, Latin America and the U.S., and desire and the difficulty of its fulfillment. Preceded by an open mic. 7-8:30 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [Facebook.com/Skazat](http://Facebook.com/Skazat). Free. 223-3165.

★**Matt Jones and the Reconstruction: The Ark Family Room Series.** Local band led by Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter Jones, who combines darkly playful instrumentation with brutally honest lyricism. 8 p.m., for livestream URL see [TheArk.org/Shows-Events](http://TheArk.org/Shows-Events). Free. 761-1451.

## 28 WEDNESDAY

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

★**"Music and Resilience in Early Postwar Poland": U-M Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.** U-M musicology professor Mackenzie Pierce discusses Polish composers who survived WWII and the music they wrote in its aftermath. Noon-1:20 p.m., for online meeting URL see [ii.umich.edu/crees](http://ii.umich.edu/crees). Free. [crees@umich.edu](mailto:crees@umich.edu)

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Double bill readings by WSU creative writing professor **Donovan Hohn**, author of the 2012 nonfiction book *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,800 Bath Toys Lost at Sea*

and local novelist **Natalie Bakopoulos**, who explores vulnerability, desire, and bittersweet truths in her new book *Scorpionfish*. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mic. 7-8:45 p.m., for meeting URL email [cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com](mailto:cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com). Free.

**Red Not Chili Peppers: The Blind Pig.** Veteran Red Hot Chili Peppers cover band from L.A. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), *The Blind Pig*, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$12 in advance at [BlindPigMusic.com/Calendar](http://BlindPigMusic.com/Calendar), \$15 at the door. 996-8555.

## 29 THURSDAY

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

★**"Can Ethical Critique Change Society? Lessons from Ethnography": U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.** Lecture by U-M anthropology professor **Webb Keane**. 4-5:30 p.m., for online meeting URL see [lsa.umich.edu/news-events](http://lsa.umich.edu/news-events). Free. 764-7274.

★**Megha Majumdar: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** This Indian-born, NYC-based novelist reads from *A Burning*, her new novel about 3 characters whose lives become intertwined following a terrorist attack on a train in India. *USA Today* calls it "a gripping thriller with compassionate social commentary." Followed by a Q&A. 5 p.m., online at [tinyurl.com/ZellWriters](http://tinyurl.com/ZellWriters). Free. 764-6330.

★**"Laughter at the Happy Hour": Kerrytown Concert House.** Cabaret songs and stories performed by **Bolcom & Morris**, the world-renowned veteran local husband-and-wife duo of pianist William Bolcom (also a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer) and mezzo-soprano Joan Morris. 5:30 p.m., online at [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com). Free, but donations accepted. [KerrytownConcertHouse.com](http://KerrytownConcertHouse.com)

★**"Inspired By ...": Neighborhood Theatre Group.** See 1 Thursday. Tonight: Kylisty Geiger directs *The Gillman Problem*, Greg Pizzino's cerebral drama based on David Bowie's "Scary Monsters (and Super Creeps)," about an argument over the sexist firing of Hollywood's first female makeup designer Milicent Patrick and the nature of the Hollywood studio system. 7 p.m.

★**"A Grand Night for Singing": University Musical Society/U-M School of Music.** Virtual showcase of music student choral

ensembles and other local singers TBA, featuring both recent and rebroadcast performances from past years. Highlights include Hubert Parry's glorious setting of "I was glad," composed for the 1901 coronation of Edward VII and sung at every English coronation since, and Alysia Lee's powerful *Say Her Name*, a piece written to promote awareness of the often unknown names of black women victimized by racist police violence. 8 p.m., online at [UMS.org/performance/a-virtual-grand-night-for-singing](http://UMS.org/performance/a-virtual-grand-night-for-singing). Free. 764-2538.

**Roxane Gay, Tracy Lynne Oliver, & Rebecca Kirby: At Home with Literati.** New York Times bestselling essayist & fiction writer Gay, novelist and essayist Oliver, and comics artist Kirby read from and discuss *The Sacrifice of Darkness*, their brand-new graphic novel adaptation of Gay's bestselling short story about a world with no sun. Q&A. 8:30 p.m., for online meeting URL preregister at [LiteratiBookstore.com](http://LiteratiBookstore.com). \$28.80-\$32.95, includes hardcover book copy. 585-5567.

## 30 FRIDAY

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

"**Richard III**": EMU Theatre Department. Oct. 30 & 31 and Nov. 1 & 6-8. EMU drama professor Lee Stille directs EMU students in this virtual production of Shakespeare's history play about a villainous king, staged in today's political and pandemic climate. 7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) and 2 p.m. (Sun.), for online URL, see [emich.edu/cmta/productions/current-season](http://emich.edu/cmta/productions/current-season). Tickets prices TBA at [EMUtix.com](http://EMUtix.com). 487-1220.

## 31 SATURDAY (HALLOWEEN)

★**Sheku Kanneh-Mason: University Musical Society.** See 25 Sunday. All day.

★**Halloween Contests: Ann Arbor District Library.** Award ceremony for all-ages costume (noon), pumpkin (2 p.m.), and Halloween scene (5 p.m.) photo-contests of the entries the AADL accepted between Oct. 1-18. Various times, online at [aadl.tv](http://aadl.tv). Free. 327-4200.

"**Richard III**": EMU Theatre Department. See 30 Friday. 7 p.m.

# kids calendar (age 12 & under)

Every weekday (10 a.m.): "**Virtual Storytime**": Ann Arbor District Library. A different local storyteller reads a story TBA to kids ages 2-5. Online at [AADL.tv](http://AADL.tv). Free. 327-4200.

Oct. 2 (5-6 p.m.): "**Lunchtime at Home**": Zingerman's Delicatessen Just for Kids. Zingerman's staffers demonstrate how to prepare some simple, quick, and tasty lunch options. For ages 6-12. For online meeting URL, see [ZingermansDeli.com](http://ZingermansDeli.com). \$15 (parents welcome to lurk for free), preregistration required. 663-3354.

Every Tues. (1-3 p.m.) & Sun. (10 a.m.-noon): "**Rescue Reading**": Humane Society of Huron Valley. All ages 6-11 invited to read to adoptable animals. Also, a group read-aloud, humane education lesson, and dog meet-and-greet. Masks required, social distancing enforced. Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill. \$10 per kid. Preregistration required. [hshv.org](http://hshv.org), 661-3575.

Every Sun. (2 p.m.): "**Virtual Kerry Tales with Mother Goose**." 5-10 minute long program of rhymes, riddles, & stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. Archived performances available at [bit.ly/kerrytales](http://bit.ly/kerrytales). For livestream URL, see [Facebook.com/Kerrytown](http://Facebook.com/Kerrytown). Free.

Oct. 7 (10-11:30 a.m.) & 14 (3:15-4:45 p.m.): "**Family Nature Adventures: Nature's Recyclers: The FBI**": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Natu-

ralist Elle Bogle teaches children & adults about fungi, bacteria, and invertebrates. Masks required, social distancing enforced. 1-3 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, 4000 Scio Church Rd. Free, preregistration required at [ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org](http://ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org).

Oct. 8 & 22 (10:30 a.m.): "**Little Paws Story Time**": Humane Society of Huron Valley. Stories, crafts, finger plays, a tour of the adoptable cat area, and a dog meet and greet. For ages 2-5 (with caregiver); kids age 5 & up must wear a face mask. Social distancing enforced. Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill. \$5 per kid (babies 11 months & under, free), preregistration required. [hshv.org](http://hshv.org), 661-3575.

Oct. 11 (3-4 p.m.): "**StoryFest Family Fun Concert**": Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. Online storytelling program featuring guild members. Program: Laura Hayes' "Circus Story," Steve Daut's "Three Wishes," Judy Sima's "Big Turnip," and Jennifer Otto's "By and By Bunny." Emcee is **Beverly Black**. Suitable for kids age 4 & older. For livestream, preregister at [AnnArborStorytelling.org](http://AnnArborStorytelling.org). Free, but donations welcome.

Oct. 17 (2-3:30 p.m.): "**Family Nature Adventures: Geology Rocks**": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Naturalist Shawn Severance teaches children & adults about geology, fossils, & Michigan's glacial history and leads a hike through this

old gravel quarry. Masks required, social distancing enforced. Fox Science Preserve, 2280 Peters Rd. Free, preregistration required at [ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org](http://ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org).

Oct. 21 & 24 (10 a.m.): "**Junior Naturalist: Michigan's Feathered Travelers**": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Naturalist Kelsey Dehring leads a hike for kids ages 7-11 to learn about and practice bird identification. Binoculars provided; bring a bird field guide if you have one. Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. Free, preregistration required at [ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org](http://ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org).

Oct. 23 (5-9 p.m.): "**Pets and Pajamas Movie Night**": Humane Society of Huron Valley. All ages 5-11 invited to watch the 2001 animated comedy *Monsters, Inc.* and interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag and pillow. Social distancing enforced, masks required. Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill. \$35 (additional children, \$15), preregistration required (capacity limited to 10 participants). [hshv.org](http://hshv.org), 661-3575.

Oct. 24 (10:30 a.m.): "**Kids Virtual Open Mic**": Oz's Music Environment. All kids invited to join a Zoom gathering to sing songs, make music, tell jokes, and more. For online meeting URL see [bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic](http://bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic) (meeting ID, 933 1925 5392; password, 362147). Free. 662-8283



# Memorials



## JAMES UTSLER

James (Jim) Utsler of Chelsea, MI, quietly passed away on Saturday, September 12, after a long and well-lived life. Born in Dexter, MI, on July 9, 1931, to Lyle and Beulah "Betty" Utsler, he served along with his twin brother Jerry in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, retired from a management position at General Motors and subsequently became a real estate agent serving the Chelsea/Dexter area.

Jim never failed to find adventure in life, whether going on an African safari; zip-lining in Costa Rica; piloting planes and sailing boats; daring rickety train rides in Mexico (a trip he often ruefully joked about); exploring Europe with his wife, Janet; rebuilding their cottage on Joslin Lake in Gregory, MI; cycling on backroads; cutting up while playing euchre; barking "Go Blue!" during U-M football games (and razzing his MSU family and friends when the Wolverines beat the Spartans); or sneaking off to a dive bar for a cold beer. It was moments such as these—both large and small—that he enjoyed so much.

This kind and warm-hearted gentleperson, who couldn't tell a joke without laughing before reaching the punchline—if he ever reached it at all—hasn't so much passed as left everyone he touched with joyful memories, reasons for hope, a profound sense of wonder and curiosity, and, most importantly, love.

Jim's survived by his wife of 63 years, Janet (Atkinson); daughters Kimberly Towne, Pamela Utsler, Cheryl Utsler Snyder, and son James Jerrold Utsler; sons-in-law Stephen Towne, Robert Hurst, Edward Snyder, and daughter-in-law Deanna Utsler (otherwise known as "the outlaws," who he also embraced as his children); grandchildren Andrew, Matthew (Amelia), Lyndsey (Steve), Pamela (Rafa), Brandon (Gabrielle) and David; and great-grandchildren Penelope, Gavin, Zelda, Corbin, Austin and Nadia.

An informal celebration of Jim's life will be held at a suitable time in 2021, and his burial will take place at St. Andrew's Cemetery in Dexter, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to Doctors Without Borders USA or the National Audubon Society. Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel.

## Share a memorial tribute in the AnnArborObserver

Text only or include a photo.  
Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line,  
per insertion (six line minimum).  
\$200 per photo up to 1.75 inches wide  
by 2 inches high.

Memorials will run in the next open issue.

Email: [classifieds@aaobserver.com](mailto:classifieds@aaobserver.com)

Please include your name and  
contact information.



## HARVEY GROTRIAN

Grotrian, Harvey Paul 8/18/1938–9/7/2020 Harvey passed away at the age of 82 on Monday, September 7, 2020 and was born on August 18, 1938 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Clara and Lloyd. He married Paulette on January 28, 1968 in Valparaiso, Indiana, and his beloved son, Jonathan, was born on June 19, 1980.

Most of Harvey's career was spent in the financial aid profession. He was director of financial aid at Valparaiso University, Wayne State University, and the University of Michigan, where he was recognized by the Provost's Office as having one of the most racially diverse administrative offices in the University. Harvey was highly respected and widely recognized as a leader in the financial aid profession. As such, he was elected by his peers to serve as the president of both the Michigan (MSFAA), and Midwest (MASFAA) Financial Aid Associations.

One of the many capstones of his career was his election by his peers to the presidency of the Washington-based National Association of Student Financial Aid Ad-

ministrators (NASFAA), a large and influential organization of almost 3,000 post-secondary institutions employing over 28,000 financial aid professionals. During his presidency he traveled to Washington and around the country frequently. However, he continued to provide leadership in the office and was deeply grateful to his staff for helping to ensure the ongoing excellence of the financial aid program at the U-M.

The staff also appreciated Harvey's decision to sit in the financial aid office reception area from time to time to get a better sense of students' financial concerns. He regularly received plaudits from the Provost's Office for maximizing financial aid funding for students from federal, state, university, and private sources year after year. Harvey had a very strong belief that students from families with very low or modest incomes should be able to get a college education and he spent 30 years helping to ensure that his vision would be realized.

He was a member of Rotary during which he worked on a water project for Rotary International in Sri Lanka, helping to provide fresh water to those in need. Harvey had a passion for classic cars, enjoying his prize-winning 1990 Buick Reatta and a 1997 Vander Plas Jaguar, and was a member of the Buick Club of America and the Jaguar Clubs of North America. He also collected antique transportation toys and loved biking and photography. Harvey was an avid writer and was published in the *Bear River Writers' Journal* through the University of Michigan. Harvey and his wife enjoyed traveling over the years. A few of his favorite destinations were the second home they shared on Lake Michigan in Holland for 15 years and then the

home in Bonita Springs, Florida, for the last five years.

He was a wonderful and compassionate son, husband, and father, who cared deeply for his family and the well-being of others. He was dedicated to equal rights, minimizing world suffering, and making the world a better place for all beings. Harvey is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Paulette; his son, Jonathan (Chelsea); a granddaughter on the way; and two Havanese dogs, Sasha and Ginger.

A private interment took place on Friday, Sept 11, at Forest Hill Cemetery, Ann Arbor, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his honor to the Nature Conservancy of Michigan (101 E. Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906).



## MIRREN CLABAUGH

Mirren A. A. (Hazel) Clabaugh was born in Dundee, Scotland on May 5, 1926. Her mother, Esther (Brough) Hazel had returned to Scotland from Winnipeg to give birth—Esther wanted her only child to be born in a "civilized" country. Mother and

child soon returned to Canada to rejoin Mirren's father, Frederick Brackenridge Hazel, who had emigrated from Scotland in 1911. Even as a wee child in the frontier town of Winnipeg, two key traits emerged that would be an integral part of Mirren's being as long as she lived: she was a friend to all animals and a born artist.

Mirren cajoled her parents into letting her attend art school by completing a typing course so that she would have a useful job skill. She graduated from the Winnipeg School of Art, Western Canada's oldest art institution, in the mid-1940s. Then, she and her lifelong pals, Jo and Ann, took off for Manhattan, where they attended the avant garde Art Students League of New York. The following summer, Mirren, Jo, and Ann, ventured north to work as waitresses at the Whitehorse Inn, in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. There, Mirren met the man who would become her husband, Harris T. (Clay) Clabaugh. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was building the Al-Can highway, and along with two RCMPs, MP Sgt. Clabaugh was there to keep the peace. Sgt. Clabaugh married Mirren, and the two Mounties married Jo and Ann, respectively.

As a soldier's wife, Mirren spent the next decades on the move and taking care of her growing family. Her oldest child (also named Mirren) was born in Denver. Her second child, Gavin, was born in Winnipeg. After a few years in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, the family returned to the U.S., landing in Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, where son Frederick was born. But Mirren was not a fan of Missouri. Decades later she would recount how appalled she was to encounter "Whites Only" sign at the local bowling alley. The family settled in Kansas City when Clay took a job as a federal agent for the USDA. Finally, in 1974, Mirren and Clay moved back to the Denver home she and Clay had bought in 1955—bought but never really lived in. Clay died suddenly in November of 1975. In Denver, she continued to live the artist's way, collaborating with her daughter Mirren, who was also an artist, on a wide variety of art projects. She created fanciful fabric collages and designed a strange garden of sunflowers, lupines, and bowling balls that delighted her many bird and squirrel friends. She enjoyed visits from her two grandchildren, Lauren and Austin, who lived nearby and were a source of great joy. Mirren always had a dog or three by her side, adopting and fostering dozens of last-chance canines over the years.

In 2015, she moved to Michigan to be closer to her son Gavin and his wife Margaret. Michigan reminded Mirren of Canada, although the Winnipeg girl often said that Michiganders didn't know what "real cold" was. Her final years were spent at Brecon Village in Saline, where she passed away peacefully on the afternoon of September 3, surrounded by family and friends. The family is deeply grateful for the genuine kindness and excellent care Mirren received at Brecon Village and from Arbor Hospice. The staff and volunteers are heroes and angels all.

Mirren was preceded in death by her husband of 25 years, Harris T. Clabaugh, Jr.; her daughter Mirren R. Clabaugh; and granddaughter Molly Correll. She is survived by her sons Gavin T. Clabaugh (Margaret) of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Frederick B. Clabaugh (Patti) of Oakhurst, California, and grandchildren Lauren Howard (Trevor) of Tucson, Arizona, and Austin Clabaugh of Morrow Bay, California.

In place of flowers or other memorials please consider a donation to the Dumb Friends League of Colorado at <https://www.ddfl.org/memorial-honor-giving/>.





# Classifieds

## Lessons & Workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the November issue is October 9.

## For Sale

The Classifieds deadline for the November issue is October 9.

## Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the November issue is October 9.

### I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 55? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, October 9. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

### FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, October 9. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

## Services

The Classifieds deadline for the November issue is October 9.

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(734) 545-4859 BillBoring2@gmail.com

### Handyman for All Seasons

Drywall, painting, furniture repair, fix leaks, repair outlets, etc. Jared at (734) 223-5622 or jdwarshuis@gmail.com.

### Professional & Affordable Housekeeper

Call A Helpful Hand: (734) 975-4229. Bonded and insured.

## Outdoors

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## Place Your Classified Ad Today!

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Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion (two line minimum). Ads will run in the next open issue.

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Office: (734) 769-3175, Fax: (734) 769-3375  
Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and contact information.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

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Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Garcia  
Publisher



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# Real Estate

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**2010 Devonshire Rd., Ann Arbor**—With its original 1920s design integrity intact and beautifully preserved, this stunning Tudor Revival with its classic asymmetric design and whimsically elaborate spiral brick chimney features a spectacular surprise off the back—an award-worthy, four-season, English-style conservatory offering surrounding views of the expansive and beautifully landscaped yard. While the living space in the home is generous, the aesthetic is cozy, warm, and enchanting. Its rare amenities include original oak exterior doors and beautifully crafted curved stairwell in the foyer; old growth oak flooring, built-ins, paneling, trim and moldings; Pewabic tile floors; original though rebuilt multi-paneled french door and windows; ornate living room ceiling and classic Tudor rough hewn beam ceilings in library and dining room; limestone fireplaces; remodeled kitchen; butler's pantry; and conservatory with bluestone floor and open stairwell to the finished basement's executive office, wine cellar, family room with bar, and two baths. Master bedroom suite includes a sitting area with fireplace and porch, abundant closet space; charming porches, and bath offering a lovely nod from the past. Three additional bedrooms and two full baths round out the second floor. The property includes buildable lot; gardens with night lighting; patio with hot tub; paver stone drive all enclosed by a wrought-iron fence with stately limestone columns. MLS# 3276357. \$2,600,000.

**For more information please visit [www.AnneandJohnSloan.com](http://www.AnneandJohnSloan.com)**



# Reinhart

## LUXURY HOMES

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**7905 Grand Street, Grandview Commons**  
New construction luxury condo steps to downtown Dexter! 2-4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths with loft and den. Gorgeous island kitchen, 2nd floor laundry, mudroom. 2-car garage. Many upgrades! \$626,900. Jessica Singer 734-780-5526. #3263293



**3689 Rolling Ridge Ct., Ann Arbor**  
Custom, all-brick 2-story on 1.18 acre in Tanglewood Hills. Formal living and dining rooms, sun-drenched 2-story family room with gas fireplace, chef's kitchen, large deck. Terrific location! \$750,000. Nancy Bishop 734-646-1333. #3276224



**930 Catherine St., Ann Arbor**  
Luxurious, turn-key end unit townhome within walking distance to UM med center and campus. 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, hardwood floors, 2nd floor laundry, attached 2.5-car garage. \$869,000. Janet McAllister 734-231-3508. #3275880



**4285 Upper Glade Ct, Ann Arbor**  
Custom built Frank Lloyd Wright inspired stunner is on the market for the first time! Many high-end features and updates will impress. Scio taxes, Ann Arbor address, Dexter schools. \$949,000. Nancy Arnold 734-260-3505. #3274560



**311 Awixa Rd., Ann Arbor**  
Unquestionably one of the most notable homes in the Geddes Arboretum neighborhood. Completely updated 3-story is as captivating on the inside as it is on the outside! Hard to beat location. \$1,050,000. Nancy Bishop 734-646-1333. #3276045



**18415 Wingate Rd, Manchester**  
This breathtaking timber frame home is nothing short of magnificent! Approximately 4,998 sq. ft. of living area, beautiful arched windows, spectacular great room, wooded views. On 10.93 acres. \$645,000. Deborah Engelbert 734-368-3683. #3274704



**13591 Macon Rd., Saline**  
Stunning, custom log home on 35 wooded acres with in-ground pool, pasture, shed, outbuilding and more. Well maintained, chef's kitchen, wood floors, walkout lower level. Township taxes. \$789,900. Tammi Ebenhoeh 734-276-4663. #3276111



**2600 Geddes Ave, Geddes/Arb Area**  
Historic home on serene green oasis setting. Totally updated and renovated. Unique design allows for 2 private living spaces. Patio with pond views. Great location, minutes to the Arb. \$875,000. Carolyn Lepard 734-417-2900. #3271297



**4158 Glen Eagles Ct, Ann Arbor**  
Frank Lloyd Wright inspired custom 4 bedroom, 5 full, 1 half bath, built in 2018. Hickory floors, abundant windows, gourmet kitchen, 1,446 sq. ft. in finished walkout. On premium site. \$950,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247. #3275649



**1510 Newport Creek Dr, Newport Creek Sub**  
Rare! New construction ready late October. 4 bedroom, 3 bath on large lot. Thoughtfully designed, many upgrades, open-concept island kitchen. Finished walkout. Walk to schools. \$1,090,000. Curt Zell 734-417-8697. #3275166



**5004 Lohr, Ann Arbor**  
Stunning 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in sought after area on 0.82 scenic acre. Gourmet kitchen, private living room, fantastic backyard with in-ground pool. Great location. Township taxes. \$649,900. Snow Liao 734-678-4848. #3271675



**208 South St, Downtown Chelsea**  
Beautifully, pristinely restored 137-year-old Queen Anne Victorian, no detail missed! 4,919 sq. ft., parquet floors, restored moldings, doors and balustrades, gorgeous wrap-around porch. \$799,900. Jean Wedemeyer 734-604-2523. #3275799



**208 W William St, Downtown Ann Arbor**  
Fabulous end unit town-home backing to proposed Ann Arbor greenbelt park. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, attached 2-car garage, Brazilian hardwood floors, many updates. Professionally landscaped. \$875,000. Ed Ridha 734-645-3110. #3273332



**133 Ashley Mews, Ashley Mews**  
Newly renovated brownstone just one block from downtown Ann Arbor! 2,466 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 3 full, 1 half bath, high-end construction, owner's suite with California Closets. 2-car garage. \$950,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909. #3276269



**9989 Dexter Chelsea Rd, Lima Twp.**  
Completely updated 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath all-brick home on 13 acres. Over 4,800 livable sq. ft. including 1,300 sq. ft. bonus room. Attached 7-car garage, 4,600 sq. ft. outbuilding. \$1,100,000. Brent Flewelling 734-646-4263. #3274692



**4261 Loon Ln, West Ann Arbor**  
To be built! Craftsman design ranch homes in A.I.R. Housing community with emphasis on high-end and amenity-focused. 2,157 sq. ft., gourmet kitchens, covered front porch. Price includes upgraded amenities. \$590,000. Brynn Stelter 734-277-2531. #3270157



**10966 Dexter Pinckney Rd, Pinckney**  
Custom contemporary home that should not be missed! Impeccably maintained, 3,376 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Open main floor, massive kitchen, 4-car detached garage. On 4.88 acres. \$800,000. Tim Powell 734-216-6168. #3275703



**9311 Grand Summit Dr., Fenton**  
Stunning and immaculate 4 bedroom, 4 full, 2 half bath with over 7,300 finished sq. ft. Two kitchens, home theater, indoor golf studio. Deck overlooks beautiful backyard, 3-car garage and more! \$889,000. Matt McKernan 734-834-8890. #3275827



**2555 Hickory Rd., NW Ann Arbor**  
Gracious custom home near the Huron River on lush 1-plus acre. 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, chef's kitchen, walls of windows, 1st floor owner's suite, finished lower level. Delightful backyard. \$965,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3276232



**343 Eagle Ridge Ct, Scio Township**  
Custom brick home on a private acre. Impeccably designed and meticulously maintained. 1st floor master, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 4,610 sq. ft. plus 2,800 sq. ft. basement, 4-car garage. \$1,299,000. Chris Marten 734-546-0282. #3275040



**1210 Wells St, Ann Arbor**  
Classic Burns Park home with original woodwork and refinished hardwood floors throughout. French doors open to formal living. Charming front porch, fenced backyard with deck and shed. \$660,000. Patti Eddy 734-646-2705. #3275876



**1612 Granger Ave, Ann Arbor**  
Unique and beautiful 2-story in the heart of Burns Park. Kitchen with breakfast bar and sun space, dining with skylights and wall of windows, study with built-ins. Spectacular yard and gardens. \$840,000. Michal Porath 734-395-0650. #3276286



**414 N Main St, Main Condos**  
Sophisticated downtown townhouse with exceptional finishes is located in the heart of Kerrytown! 2 bedrooms plus study, 2.5 baths. Chic kitchen with quartz countertops. 2-car tandem garage. \$925,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3274262



**1023 Avon Rd., Ann Arbor Hills**  
Beautifully renovated 2-story, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in a great location. Gorgeous new kitchen, open family room, Florida room. 1st floor owner's suite. 2-car garage, terrific yard. \$989,000. Jan Nelson 734-717-4909. #3276360



**421 Glazier Rd, Chelsea**  
Stunning, private Cavanaugh Lake home on 161 ft. of lakefront. Breathtaking gardens and grounds with pond, waterfall and tennis court. Architecturally inspiring and surprising home. Must see! \$1,649,000. Scott Cooper 517-250-7111. #3274887

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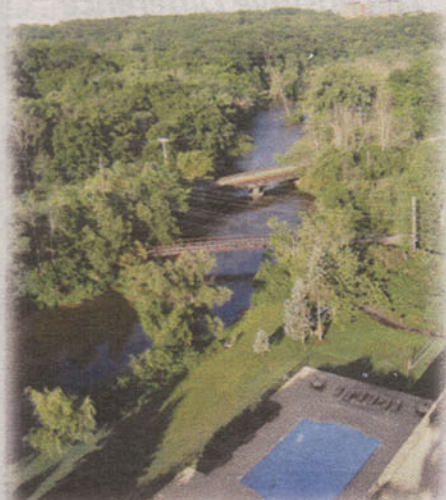


Photo taken from apartment balcony.

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# A Landmark Mansion in the Heart of Ann Arbor



**1917 WASHTENAW, ANN ARBOR**—One of Ann Arbor's landmark properties, this grand mansion was constructed in 1917 of hand-hewn quarried granite in the Swiss Chalet style. Steel casement windows lend natural light to the many rooms. The large living room has a fireplace, oak floors and high ceilings defined by wide moldings. French doors open to a three-season room with the distinctive stone wall along one side. The formal dining room with fireplace is served by a butler's pantry and large kitchen. On the second floor are 3 bedrooms, including an expansive master suite with fireplace, sleeping porch, and bath. The third floor has the 5th and 6th bedrooms, 2 baths, and a library. The property was acquired by a church in 1946, and a building was added as a parsonage. Later, famed mid-century architect George Brigham designed a large addition to the main house. More recently, the home became a bed and breakfast. The parsonage was transformed with a sitting area and 7 bedroom suites, five have their own fireplaces. The original carriage house became a private guest cottage. There are a total of 3 buildings with 15 bedrooms and 14 baths. In an extraordinary location close to all Ann Arbor has to offer. MLS #3276242 \$1,750,000.



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**NEW LISTING - BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS** - Stunning 5-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 1/2-bath home on a gorgeous acre lot in one of the most desired neighborhoods with Saline schools. The setting is incredible with extensive landscaping, large deck, great backyard, and one of the nicest screened porches you will see. The interior is loaded with quality features and amenities. Highlights include living room with vaulted ceiling, open concept kitchen with granite, family room with fireplace, luxury master suite, and professional finished basement with rec room, exercise, bedroom, and bath. \$798,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**DEXTER** - This 5-bedroom, 4-bath architectural gem is simply stunning. Custom-built with the highest standards of materials and craftsmanship you will be amazed by the quality and space of this truly one-of-a-kind home. This home rests on a private 2.5-acre lot with complete privacy and surrounded by nature. Interior highlights include two-story great room, open concept kitchen with quartz countertops, luxury master suite with walk-in closet and spa-like bath, and finished walkout basement. \$789,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**NEW LISTING - BELLEVILLE LAKE** - This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built colonial rests on one of the incredible lake front settings you will ever see. You will be amazed by the panoramic views of this all sports lake. The home is gorgeous. Features include all brick exterior, new kitchen with custom cabinets, quartz counter tops, and stainless-steel appliances, family room with fireplace and lake views, luxury master suite with upper balcony and remodeled bath, great kids' bedrooms, finished 3rd floor, and 3 car garage. \$779,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**CENTENNIAL PARK** - This 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two 1/2-bath former builder's model home is loaded with custom features in one of Saline school's most popular neighborhoods. This home rests on one of the largest lots in the neighborhood with extensive landscaping, paver patio, and huge backyard. The interior highlights include two-story family room, cherry kitchen, sunroom, private den, luxury first floor master suite, bonus room, and finished basement. \$759,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**STONEBRIDGE** - Stunning 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath former Showcase of Homes entry on a quiet cul-de-sac lot. The setting of this home is wonderful with great landscaping, large deck, and paver patio. The interior has been completely remodeled and is gorgeous. Highlights include hardwood floors throughout the home, cherry kitchen with granite counters, open concept family room with fireplace, paneled den, luxury master suite with new bath, great kids' bedrooms, and finished basement. \$629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**ARBORETUM** - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home on one of the best lots in this very popular neighborhood walking distance to downtown Saline. You will love the setting of this home with a spacious backyard, large deck, and great landscaping. The interior sparkles with many recent updates. Features include two-story great room with fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury first floor master suite, den, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths on the 2nd level, and finished walkout basement. \$499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**HERITAGE FALLS CONDO** - Stunning 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath ranch condo in one of the most convenient locations you'll see. You will love living walking distance to restaurants and shopping and just minutes to I-94 and UM campus. The interior is loaded with quality finishes. Features include great room with fireplace, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless-steel appliance, sunroom, luxury first floor master suite, 2nd bedroom suite, and 3rd bedroom that makes a perfect den. \$499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**NEW LISTING - HOMETOWN VILLAGE** - This very sharp 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home is just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and UM campus in one of the area's most desired neighborhoods. You will love the setting of this home including the large deck and great patio. The interior is fantastic and features 10' first floor ceilings, open concept floorplan, living room with fireplace, spacious kitchen, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling, great kids' bedrooms, and partially finished basement with view out windows. \$419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**DEXTER** - This 3-bedroom, 2-bath cape rests on an extremely private 1.8-acre lot just minutes from downtown Dexter. You will love this setting with mature trees, extensive landscaping, huge backyard, deck, and patio. The interior of this home is in move-in condition. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling and full height stone fireplace, open kitchen with stainless-steel appliances, first floor master suite, 2nd level with loft, 2 bedrooms, a bath, and a finished walkout basement. \$399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**SALINE** - This charming 4-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath turn-of-the-century two-story has been beautifully restored and is just blocks from the heart of downtown Saline. You will love being walking distance to shopping and restaurants from this historic home. Features include hardwood flooring and stained original trim throughout, spacious living room, formal dining room, family room, remodeled kitchen with great combination of original and modern touches, great bedroom space upstairs, and remodeled bath. \$319,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**ANN ARBOR CONDO** - This 3-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath townhome condo was the model home for this complex and is loaded with quality upgrades. You will love the location just minutes to UM central campus and US-23. This end-unit condo features a great open concept floor plan. Features include maple kitchen with granite counters, living room with fireplace, great master suite with vaulted ceiling, attached bath, and walk-in closet, and finished lower level. \$319,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**ANN ARBOR CONDO** - Very sharp 3-bedroom, 3-bath ranch condo in Walden Village. You will love this very convenient location on Ann Arbor's west side just minutes to shopping and UM Central campus. The unit has a great setting with views of Dicken Woods from your private patio. The interior features fresh paint and new flooring throughout. Features include large living room with lots of natural light. Spacious kitchen, nice master suite with attached bath, 2 additional bedrooms, and a partially finished basement. \$269,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**ANN ARBOR HILLS** - Mid-century modern inspired 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath ranch walking distance to UM central campus, the Arboretum, and Gallup Park. This home rests on a gorgeous lot with extensive landscaping, paver patios, and complete privacy. The interior is fantastic featuring great room with vaulted, beamed ceiling and fireplace, renovated kitchen, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished lower level with great rec space. \$1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**ANN ARBOR HILLS** - This classic 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath colonial rests on a gorgeous hilltop lot in a prime section of Ann Arbor Hills. You will love this setting with mature trees, large backyard, and patio. The interior is gorgeous! Highlights include all-hardwood floors, original trim, updated kitchen with painted maple cabinets and granite counters, living room with fireplace, sunroom, den, master suite with remodeled master bath, 2nd bedroom suite, and finished basement. Angell Elementary. \$1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



**SALINE** - Custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath all brick home on a peaceful acre lot in one of Saline's best neighborhoods. This home is incredible. The exterior features extensive landscaping, cover patio, deck, and huge backyard. The interior loaded. Highlights include great room with fireplace, maple kitchen with granite, paneled den, luxury first floor master suite with newer spa-like bath, bonus room, and incredible finished basement. \$829,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

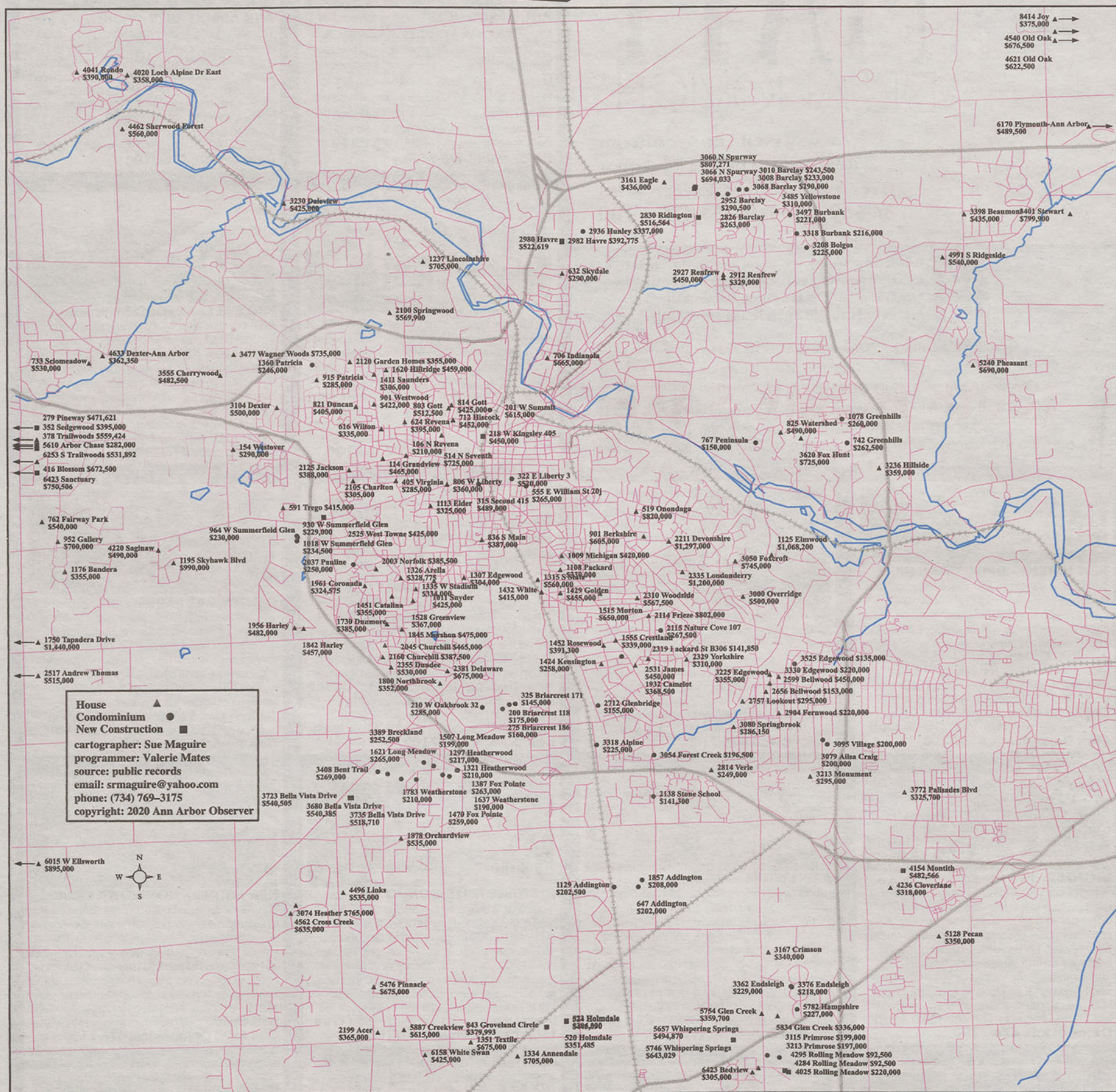


**PINES AT LAKE FOREST** - Incredible 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath Toll Brothers built home on a gorgeous lot in one of the area's most desired neighborhoods. This home is beautiful with one of the finest interiors you will see on the market today. Highlights include dramatic two-story foyer, custom kitchen with granite counters and Wolf range, open concept two-story foyer with stack stone fireplace, luxury master suite with sitting area and spa-like bath, and great kids' bedrooms. \$799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



AUGUST 2020

# HOME SALES



Single-family home sales in the City of Ann Arbor are down 12 percent so far this year, from 743 to 652, according to data from the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors. Listings are down 13 percent, from 1,173 in to 1,013. The average price is up less than 1 percent, from \$449,731 to \$454,112.

Two new Pulte subdivisions in Pittsfield Township posted five sales on this month's map. The Estates of Pittsfield Glen, west of Platt Rd. north of Michigan Ave., is seven miles from both downtown Ann Arbor and downtown Saline. According to its website, students will attend Ann Arbor Public Schools. The Estates of Bella Vista is east of Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. just south of Oak

Valley Dr. Prices ranged from \$494,870 to \$643,029.

Inside the city limits a whole other kind of construction is going on as existing homes are renovated or replaced entirely. In 2015, a 680-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-bath home at 2599 Bellwood was torn down to make way for one with 1,386 square feet, four bedrooms, and two full and two half baths. Listed in August at \$450,000, it had an accepted offer within two days.

The lowest priced single-family home on our map is just down the block at 2656 Bellwood. The 704-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-bath 1943 ranch sold for \$153,000. The second lowest-priced, at 109 N. Revena,

fetches \$210,000—and was marketed as a possible teardown.

A twice-renovated house at 2114 Frieze sold for \$802,000—more than double the median price in the neighborhood, and two and a half times what it sold for in 2015. That buyer painted and refinished the hardwood floors, renovated the lower level, and opened and totally renovated the kitchen with white cabinets, stainless appliances, and quartz and cinder stone counters before selling it in 2018 for \$490,000. The next owners added a complete exterior overhaul, a deck along the back of the home accessed via an oversized out-swing Andersen four panel doorwall, and striking bathroom updates incorporating

Ann Sacks designer tile along with Cambria quartz counter and walls to make it fully magazine-worthy.

Former city manager Howard Lazarus got his asking price for 706 Indianola. Another teardown, the 1,840-square-foot, three-bedroom, three-bath Craftsman-style home with a 1.5 car garage was newly built when he and his wife Carol bought it in 2016. Fired earlier this year by a new council majority, Lazarus moved up to a bigger job as executive director of his native Delaware County, Pennsylvania. He and his wife Carol paid \$585,000 for the home off Pontiac Tr., and sold it for \$665,000.

—Sue Maguire



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## 100th HOME SALE CHARITY DONATION AND THE WINNER IS... WE THE PEOPLE OPPORTUNITY FARM



We are committed to making Washtenaw County a better place for everyone and happy to show our support. Thank you to everyone who participated by voting in this campaign and thank you to all of the non-profit agencies that spend countless hours caring for and servicing those in need in Washtenaw County!

The Bouma Group is proud to support a number of local non-profit charities by donating \$12,000 upon our 100th Home Sale! Giving back to the community that has helped us grow our business for the past 35 years is important to us and gives exposure to these smaller organizations through our networks which helps them grow exponentially.

The campaign lasted 4 weeks with daily voting by the community for their favorite non-profit. Each received a portion of the donation.

Based on the votes, the organizations were ranked as follows:

1. We the People Opportunity Farm received \$5,000
2. Community Action Network of Ann Arbor received \$3,000
3. Humane Society of Huron Valley received \$2,000
4. SOS Community Services received \$1,000
5. Michigan Foster Care Closet received \$1,000

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# Back Page

## i spy

by Sally Bjork

"I found it," writes Kimberly Barrett about September's I Spy—AT&T's control office at 315 E. Washington. "The more elaborate facade is the backside of the building."

"The photo shows one of eight stone rosettes in the spandrels between the first and second floor windows," adds Larry Kestenbaum. To his informed eye, the bricklaying was "dead giveaway—Flemish Bond: alternating headers and stretchers in each course of brick."

"The building formerly known as Michigan Bell ... was built in 1925," writes David Karl. It was "designed by architect William Kapp—also known for Rackham Hall."

"This was a lot of fun to figure out," says Dan Romanchik. It "backs up to where the A&P Cleaners was located," writes Silvia Ruiz, referring to the clue about "the first drive-thru cleaners in the area." Louisa Griffs appreciated that connection to August's puzzle—A&P "moved from their Liberty Street location to 312 E. Huron in November, 1956." At the time, writes Barb Tester, the newspaper quoted "owner David



Stationary spin

Mayerstein as saying ... 'customers will enter through a door on Fifth Ave. ... and drive out of a Huron St. exit.'"

We received thirteen correct entries in September, and Andrea Mayerstein Ludwig won our random drawing. She writes, "the hunt was another thrill for me ... my parents, Dave & Katherine, were ... the originators" of the drive-thru.

Mayerstein will enjoy her \$25 gift certificate at Zingerman's. To enter this month's contest, use the image and clue above to find the location and send your answer to the address below.



## fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 158 entries correctly identifying the Fake Ad for Pro Bono Political on page 59 of the September issue.

"I love the sentiment behind the ad for Pro Bono Political," wrote Kevin Berasley. "Too bad it's a fake ad."

"What a wonderful Fake Ad in the September issue!" wrote Cherry Westerman. "That's the way it should always be—building up rather than tearing down."

In politics, yes, but also in so many other aspects of life. The Pro Bono Politico ad, with Corcoran hidden in 'Rancor Co. ran.' Thank you for a positive outlook on life, at least for a moment."

Dan Romanchik agreed, though with a caveat: "if they stick to their strategy

of producing only 'positive message ads,' they're not going to be in business long."

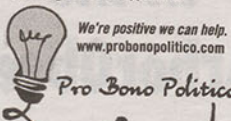
Elena Haviland made finding the Fake Ad a family project. "Ha! I think we're getting better at this," she wrote. "My son and I enjoyed searching through this month's issue for the Fake Ad. Along the way I saw the HSHV's Pets and Pajamas event and signed up my kids for a long needed outing."

Monika Barera was drawn as our winner. She's donating her \$25 back to the Observer. Thanks Monika!

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad and enter using the address below. The ad always contains the name of the previous month's winner in some form.

In the days leading up to the Michigan primary, Rancor Co. ran hundreds of television ads attacking candidates from both political parties.

We have a better idea. We're Pro Bono Politico. We produce only positive message ads for campaigns that want to build up their candidates instead of tearing down their opponents.



To enter this month's contests, send email to [backpage@aaobserver.com](mailto:backpage@aaobserver.com). Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on October 9th will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

## Introducing...



### Check out the Observer's weekly newsletter!

Every Thursday, we'll send you a weekly round-up of top stories, events, interviews, short articles, profiles, personal narratives, art, video and more.

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# THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

**Congratulations** to the lucky winners of our September drawing!

The following readers won a **\$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

**September winners:**  
**Jeff C. and Marina Z.**

If you would like to be entered in the October drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 50, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by October 9.

Thanks!  
Observer Staff





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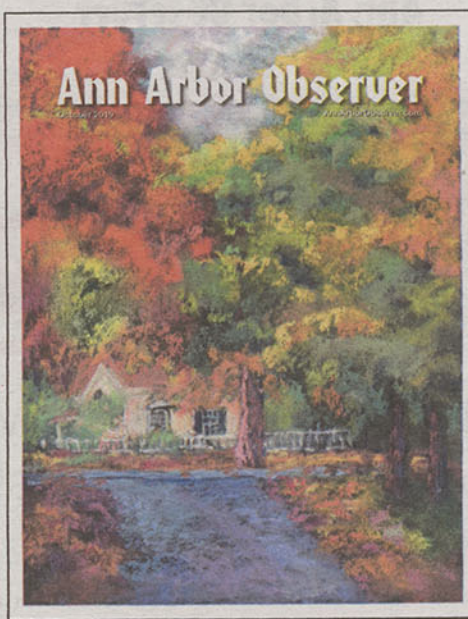
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## Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 37. Seniors: p. 37. Films: p. 42. Galleries: p. 43. Kids: p. 44.

►Reviewed in this issue. See p. 40.

### Concert Music

*classical, religious, cabaret*

- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra online, Oct. 17
- Takács Quartet (UMS) online, Oct. 21–24
- Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason (UMS) online, Oct. 25–Nov. 4
- U-M online Singing Showcase (UMS), Oct. 29

### Vernacular Music

*pop, rock, jazz, & traditional*

- The Infamous Stringdusters (bluegrass) online, Oct. 2–4
- Duo Aaron Nathans and Michael G. Ronstadt (alt-folk) online, Oct. 7
- Singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega (avant-folk) online, Oct. 7
- Singer-songwriter Richard Thompson (folk-rock) online, Oct. 11
- Davina & the Vagabonds (horn-based bluegrass) online, Oct. 16
- Singer-songwriter Christine Lavin (contemporary folk) online, Oct. 24

### Theater, Opera, & Dance

- Virtual *Inspired By ...* (Neighborhood Theatre Group), every Thurs.
- Zoom play series (Theatre Nova), Oct. 7–11
- Virtual *#Matter* and *Black Flag* (EMU Theatre), Oct. 16–18
- Virtual *Do Not Disturb(ed)* (Penny Seats Theatre), Oct. 23
- Virtual *Richard III* (EMU Theatre), Oct. 30 & 31 and Nov. 1 & 6–8

### Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- The Moth virtual storytelling competition, Oct. 3
- StoryFest (Ann Arbor Storytellers) online, Oct. 10 & 11
- “Living Room Live!” virtual storytelling, Oct. 24

### Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Wiard's Orchards Country Fair, every Sat. & Sun.
- Virtual Rasa Festival, Oct. 1 and every Sat. & Sun.

### Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Journalist Colin Woodard livestream, Oct. 6
- Novelist Téa Obreht livestream, Oct. 15
- Poet and fiction writer Jenny Zhang livestream, Oct. 22
- Writers Roxane Gay & Tracy Lynne Oliver and comic artist Rebecca Kirby livestream, Oct. 29

### Family & Kids' Stuff

See our *Kids Calendar*, p. 44 for most kids events.

- “Animal Haunts” (Leslie Science and Nature Center), Oct. 23, 24, & 30
- “Night Terrors” attractions, every Sat. & Sun.

### “Only in Ann Arbor”

#### Event of the Month

- AADL book discussion with a local descended from the first recorded African born on American soil, Oct. 6

## Memorials



*Share a memorial tribute  
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Text only or include a photo.

Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line,  
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Memorials will run in the next open issue.

Email: [classifieds@aaobserver.com](mailto:classifieds@aaobserver.com)

Please include your name and  
contact information.

**October issue Memorials, page 45**



# AN OPEN LETTER TO THE DAHLMANN FAMILY

We, the 245 employees who work for the Dahlmann Hotels, Apartments, Shopping Centers and Office Buildings wish to express our deep gratitude for the full, uninterrupted salaries and health insurance that you continue to pay us during this time of great uncertainty.

"I am just overwhelmed that the Dahlmanns care enough about us employees to continue to pay us through this awful situation. I cannot be more thrilled and at ease at the same time." Jim W.

"The generosity, respect and care you show to all who work for you is, and always has been, astounding and is just not found in today's workplace." Sarah G.

"I cannot thank Dennis, Andy and Ben enough for their amazing generosity during this difficult time. The Dahlmanns truly are the most amazing family to be a part of." Kathy H.

"We are so incredibly grateful to have a thoughtful and supportive family of owners that value our health and well-being." Avence S.

"From the bottom of my heart, thank you for letting me be part of your amazing company." Esmeralda S.

"When you say we are family, I know personally it comes from the heart. A lot of us were wondering how can we make it through? And now, thanks to you, we can." Dorothy C.

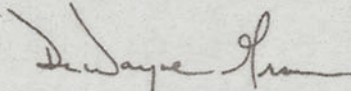
"This means so much to everyone here in Florida. One particularly- Jason- was overwhelmed (very noticeably choked up) and asked that I thank you personally." Bill W.

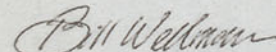
"I just want you to know that I am really thankful to have a job and bosses as I do.  
A big thank you! God Bless." Amber F.

"As I reviewed your emails, my eyes danced with joy! There are no words to express my heartfelt thanks!" Rosetta G.


"It makes me feel lucky to work for such great people." Craig M.

*Thank you*

  
DeWayne Grann  
on behalf of Dahlmann  
Michigan Employees

  
Bill Wellman  
on behalf of Dahlmann  
Florida Employees





**1 in 5 Washtenaw  
County adults  
can't read the  
Ann Arbor Observer.**

**Or virus information.**

**Or a ballot.**

**Or their children's homework.**

**You can make a difference from your home!  
Online Tutor Training + Online Tutoring  
[www.washtenawliteracy.org](http://www.washtenawliteracy.org) | 734.337.3338**

**You are invited to celebrate literacy at home!  
22nd Annual Benefit Gala | October 24 | 7:00 PM  
[www.gala2020.washtenawliteracy.org](http://www.gala2020.washtenawliteracy.org)**



**WASHTENAW  
LITERACY**

**Write a Wrong.  
Tutor - Volunteer - Give**